



COUNTY OF ABERDEEN

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TENTH  
ANNUAL REPORT

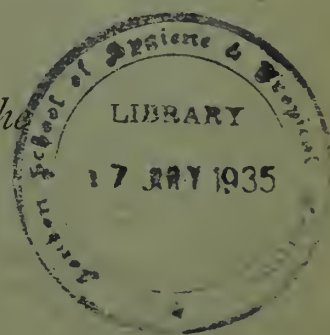
BY THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE

*Health and Sanitary Conditions of the  
County of Aberdeen*

FOR THE YEAR

1934

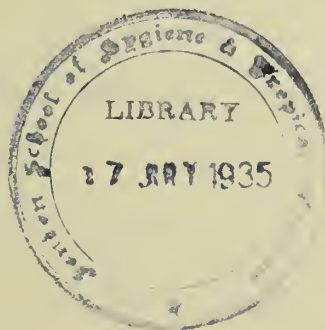




T E N T H  
A N N U A L   R E P O R T

By   The  
MEDICAL   OFFICER   OF   HEALTH

On   The  
Health and Sanitary Conditions of the  
County of Aberdeen  
For The Year  
1 9 3 4.







## C O N T E N T S.

	Page
Statistical Summary .....	3
Preface .....	4

### SECTION I.

#### GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH of the DISTRICTS.

1. Vital Statistics .....	7
2. Morbidity and Mortality from Infectious Diseases -	
(a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases -	
Scarlet Fever .....	9
Diphtheria .....	13
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers ..	17
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	17
Undulant Fever .....	18
Erysipelas .....	18
Pneumonia .....	18
Malaria .....	18
Dysentery .....	18
Small-pox .....	18
(b) Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases -	
Chicken-pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, and Mumps.	19
3. Housing .....	19
4. Disinfections .....	24
5. Factory and Workshops Act .....	24

### SECTION II.

#### THE HEALTH of the BURGHS.

Vital Statistics .....	25
Incidence of the Commoner Infectious Diseases.	27
Housing .....	27

### SECTION III.

#### MATERNITY and CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Births and Birth-rates .....	29
Infantile Mortality .....	29
Maternal Mortality .....	30
Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915 .....	30
Puerperal Sepsis and Pyrexia .....	31
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	32



SECTION IV.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

The Physical Condition of the School Children.	34
Treatment of Disease in School Children -	
(1) Dental Services . . . . .	38
(2) Defective Vision . . . . .	39

SECTION V.

TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES.

Survey . . . . .	41
Statistics . . . . .	42
Treatment -	
(1) Institutional Treatment . . . . .	44
(2) Domiciliary Treatment . . . . .	45
(3) Dispensary Treatment . . . . .	46

SECTION VI.

Public Assistance Medical Services . . . . .	47
--	----

SECTION VII.

Nursing Services . . . . .	49
----------------------------	----

SECTION VIII.

The Treatment of Venereal Diseases . . . . .	52
--	----

SECTION IX.

Bacteriological Services . . . . .	55
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SECTION X.

Veterinary Services . . . . .	59
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SECTION XI.

Reports by Sanitary Inspectors . . . . .	65
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S T A T I S T I C A L   S U M M A R Y .

(For the Districts and all the Burghs).

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	<u>Districts.</u>	<u>Burghs.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Acreage      ...    ...    ...	1,251,735	3,917	1,255,652
2. Population (estimated)    ...	108,545	39,665	148,210
3. Density of population per acre.	.087	10.1	.12
4. Birth-rate    ...    ...    ...	19.1	20.2	19.4
5. Infantile Mortality            ...	65	72.5	67.06
6. Death-rate    ...    ...    ...	12.2	12.8	12.4

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## P R E F A C E.

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I herewith submit my Tenth Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1934, on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the County of Aberdeen. There are also incorporated Reports by the Bacteriologists, by the Veterinary Inspector on the operation of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, and by the County Divisional Sanitary Inspectors and by the Burgh Sanitary Inspectors.

The medical services of the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine were co-ordinated with those of the City of Aberdeen in 1930. In the end of 1933, negotiations were in progress between the County and City of Aberdeen regarding the amalgamation of the Bacteriological and Veterinary Services. Since 16th May, 1934, the County bacteriological work has been carried out at the Laboratory, City Hospital, Aberdeen.

The Veterinary Services of Town and County were amalgamated. Mr. George Howie, the County Veterinary Officer was appointed Regional Veterinary Officer, with two qualified Veterinary Assistants who perform the routine County work.

During the year the Sanitary Services were re-organised. Three District Sanitary Inspectors retired on account of age and the rural area was divided into four sections, each with a Divisional Sanitary Inspector and a qualified Assistant Sanitary Inspector. The divisions are similar to those of the Roads Department. The change was effected with little disturbance of work and the re-organisation - which entailed the employment of eight Sanitary Inspectors instead of seven - has been justified by results.

Concentration of the County Infectious Diseases Hospitals was effected in 1932. The Infectious Diseases Hospitals were then reduced from twelve to five. The Hospitals at Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Inverurie, Huntly and Aboyne were retained as Infectious Diseases Hospitals. Strichen Hospital was converted into a Tuberculosis Institution.

The disused Hospitals at Summerfield, Alford, Ellon, Turriff, Ballater and Braemar ceased to function as Infectious Diseases Hospitals. In May, 1935, Summerfield Hospital became the property of the Town Council, consequent on the extension of the City boundaries. It was hoped that the disused hospitals would be opened as "Cottage Hospitals", managed by local bodies, such as the District Nursing Associations, and subsidised by the Local Authority in respect of certain beds set aside for statutory cases. None of these Hospitals has yet been opened, although there is every prospect that Turriff Hospital will be re-opened and will effectively function before the end of 1935. The other disused Hospitals, with the exception of Braemar Hospital which is unsuitable, may soon be put to a useful/

CO-ORDINATION  
OF MEDICAL  
AND VETERINARY  
SERVICES.

SANITARY  
RE-ORGANISATION.

THE HOSPITALS.





useful purpose.

As regards Buchan Home, it is now acknowledged that the old practice of accommodating ordinary poor, sick poor, mental defectives and lunatics in one institution is not commendable; the ideal is the "one-purpose" institution. In the past year, relatively few confinements have taken place at Buchan Home. Whenever possible, maternity cases have been removed to Cottage Hospitals within the County or to institutions in Aberdeen. This "one-purpose" administration, if adopted, will probably lead to some of the disused Infectious Diseases Hospitals being re-opened.

The Registrar-General estimated the population to the middle of the year as 108,545 for the Districts and 39,665 for the Burghs. He estimates that, since the last census was taken in 1931, the rural population has increased by 1,122 and the burghal by 1,487.

POPULATION.

In 1934, there were 2,078 births in the Districts - 16 more than in 1933. The birth-rate was 19.1 per 1,000 of population as compared with 18.0 for the whole of Scotland. In the Burghs the birth-rate was 20.1.

BIRTH-RATE.

The number of deaths in the Districts was 1,328 which equals a death-rate of 12.2 per 1,000 of population. In the Burghs, the death-rate was 12.8. The death-rate for the whole of Scotland was 12.9 per 1,000 of population - the lowest ever recorded.

DEATH-RATE.

The great wave of scarlet fever, which began in 1933, continued into 1934 and was accompanied by an increased incidence of diphtheria.

INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES.

It will be remembered that between 1925 and 1930, children, of school age principally, were tested as to susceptibility to scarlet fever and diphtheria and those found to be susceptible were actively immunised. The scheme was suspended, mainly owing to shortage of medical staff, but a similar scheme - relating to diphtheria only - was submitted and approved by the Council.

The number of deaths in the County, including the Burghs, was 97; 74 of the deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 23 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The death-rate from all forms of tuberculosis was 0.65 per 1,000 - 0.50 for pulmonary tuberculosis and 0.15 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The Scottish death-rate - for all forms was 0.75 per 1,000 of population - a new low level - .57 for pulmonary and .18 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The work in the Mother and Child Welfare Department continues to make satisfactory progress. The established Clinics are functioning with increasing success.

MATERNITY AND  
CHILD WELFARE  
SERVICES.

The Scheme for the Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children has been carried out in lines similar to those of former years. The dental side of the Scheme is increasing in popularity. The Dental Board of the United Kingdom sent two demonstrators, with dental exhibits, for a fortnight to several Schools in the County. This/

SCHOOL  
MEDICAL  
SERVICES.



This form of propaganda is most valuable, especially as parents are encouraged to be present at the demonstrations.

In Section I. 3 of the Report, the progress of housing is shown in detail. Aberdeenshire has to be congratulated especially on the manner in which the County Council has given effect to the provisions of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926 and 1931. Under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, a progressive housing policy has been adopted.

HOUSING.

The reconstruction of old and the construction of new houses will have a great influence in preventing rural depopulation. When new houses are being erected in villages, it would be well to acquire more ground than is required for immediate housing needs so that future possible extensions could be made with an attractive lay-out and with intelligent planning for purposes of amenity.

It is my pleasant duty again to put on record my appreciation of the willing and effective assistance given by the members of the professional and clerical staffs.

ACKNOWLEDG-  
MENTS.

HARRY J. RAE,

Regional Medical Officer of Health.

County Public Health Department,  
4, Albyn Place,  
Aberdeen.

29th June, 1935.  
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## SECTION I.

### GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE DISTRICTS.

#### 1. Vital Statistics.

##### Population.

The population of the eight Districts of the County, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1934 was 108,545. The population of the Districts, as ascertained at the last four decennial censuses, was as follows:-

In 1901	the population was	124,007
In 1911	" "	" 119,209
In 1921	" "	" 113,567
In 1931	" "	" 107,423

In 1934, the natural increase in the population - the excess of births over deaths - was 750, as compared with 771 in 1933.

##### Marriages.

In 1934, 503 marriages were registered as against 448 in 1933. The marriage-rate, that is, the number of marriages per 1,000 of population, was 4.6, as compared with 4.1 in 1933.

##### Births.

The total number of births, corrected for inward and outward transfers, was 2,078. Of these, 1,053 were males and 1,025 females. There were 16 more births than in 1933. The Scottish birth-rate in 1934 was 18 per 1,000 of population. The County District birth-rate was 19.1. The corresponding figures in 1933 were 17.6 and 19.04 respectively.

From 1924 to 1932, the birth-rates in the Districts were:-

22.3 in 1924; 22.02 in 1925; 20.02 in 1926; 21.2 in 1927; 21.9 in 1928; 20.3 in 1929; 20.4 in 1930; 19.35 in 1931; 20.6 in 1932.

Of the total births, 343 were illegitimate. The illegitimate birth-rate was 16.5 in 1934. In 1933, it was 15.1; in 1932, 16.03; in 1931, 17.17; in 1930, 16.7; and in 1929, 17.3.

##### Deaths and Death-rate.

After corrections were made for transfers, it was found that the net number of deaths in the Districts was 1,328, equivalent to a death-rate of 12.2 per 1,000 of population. The death-rate in 1933 was 11.9.

In the Burghs, there were 508 deaths, representing a death-rate of 12.8 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 14.2 in 1933.

The total number of deaths registered in Scotland was 63,741, equivalent to a death-rate of 12.9.

Causes/





Causes of Death.

The principal causes of death in the Districts and in the Burghs, together with the number of deaths attributable to the various well-defined diseases, appear in Table I.

TABLE I.

Causes of Death	Districts	BURGHs.										Total for Burghs.
		Ballater	Ellon	Fraserburgh	Huntly	Inverurie	Kintore	Oldmeldrum	Rosehearty	Turriff	Peterhead	
Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels	297	-	9	27	8	13	-	4	5	13	39	118
Respiratory Diseases -												
Bronchitis ...	35	-	1	4	2	1	1	-	1	1	5	16
Pneumonia ...	71	-	-	13	2	2	-	-	-	1	7	25
Other ...	12	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	6
Cancer ...	144	4	-	19	9	5	1	5	3	3	20	69
Tuberculosis -												
Pulmonary ...	49	-	-	10	1	2	-	-	-	-	12	25
Non-pulmonary ...	19	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5
Kidney Diseases ...	56	1	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	2	1	10
Chief Epidemic Diseases -												
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	13	-	1	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	10
Diphtheria ...	21	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	3	1	10
Whooping Cough ...	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis ...	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
Influenza ...	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Puerperal Sepsis &c.	12	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
Diseases of early infancy	79	1	-	7	3	4	1	2	-	2	13	33
Violence ...	50	1	2	5	1	2	2	-	2	1	2	18

With regard to the causes of death, the following facts are worthy of note:-





- (1) Diseases of the heart and blood vessels caused 415 deaths, 66 more than in 1933.
- (2) In 1934, there were 213 deaths from cancer, as compared with 200 in 1933.
- (3) Pneumonia was the cause of death in 96 cases an increase of 18 as compared with 1933.
- (4) Influenza caused 13 deaths in 1934. In 1933, the number of deaths due to this cause was 84.
- (5) In 1934, puerperal sepsis caused 16 deaths as compared with 17 in 1933 and 6 in 1932.

## 2. Morbidity and Mortality from Infectious Diseases.

### (a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Under this heading, the numbers of infectious cases notified and treated include - unless otherwise stated - both the Districts and Burghs.

#### Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified from the Districts and Burghs since 1925 was as follows:-

1925.....	398 cases.
1926.....	627 "
1927.....	603 "
1928.....	577 "
1929.....	356 "
1930.....	296 "
1931.....	223 "
1932.....	317 "
1933.....	660 "
1934.....	1,491 "

The number of cases notified in the Districts was 1,163, and in the Burghs, 328. The corresponding figures for 1933 were 500 and 160 respectively. There was thus, in 1934, an increase of scarlet fever cases of 663 in the Districts and 168 in the Burghs.

It is typical of scarlet fever that it appears in epidemic form at the relatively short period of two to three years. In 1932, there was a slight increase in prevalence, with 317 cases, but, in 1933, the number mounted to 660, the highest figure during the ten years previous to 1934.

The 1933 epidemic became aggravated in 1934. The characteristics of the epidemic were fully detailed in the Annual Report for 1933. The continuance of the epidemic was largely attributable to mild and recognised or unrecognisable cases. Again idiosyncrasy plays its part; one person may have what appears to be a simple tonsillitis which disappears in a few days but the organisms from this case may be passed on to another who develops typical scarlet fever.

Age Incidence:- Of the 1,163 cases notified from the Districts, 691 or 59.4 per cent., were of school age and 200 or 17.1 per cent., were under school age.

The ages of the notified cases are given in Table II.

TABLE/



TABLE II.

Scarlet Fever.

Age Incidence of Cases (Districts).

Districts	Under 1 Year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Deer	1	70	188	31	30	2	-	322
Ellon	-	26	87	10	17	4	-	144
Garioch	-	24	90	11	17	4	-	146
Deeside	-	25	111	28	29	3	-	196
Turriff	-	8	47	26	8	1	-	90
Aberdeen	1	23	119	10	14	4	1	172
Alford	-	13	28	3	5	-	1	50
Huntly	1	8	21	5	6	2	-	43
Totals	3	197	691	124	126	20	2	1,163
Percentage	.25	16.9	59.4	10.7	10.8	1.7	.17	100

Seasonal Prevalence:- The monthly prevalence in the Districts and Burghs is shown in Table III.

TABLE III.

Scarlet Fever.

Monthly Incidence of Cases (Districts and Burghs).

Month		<u>Districts</u>		<u>Burghs</u>		<u>Total</u>
January	...	100	...	33	...	133
February	...	88	...	17	...	105
March	...	82	...	40	...	122
April	...	85	...	24	...	109
May	...	92	...	35	...	127
June	...	107	...	35	...	142
July	...	95	...	32	...	127
August	...	73	...	41	...	114
September	...	126	...	21	...	147
October	...	103	...	22	...	125
November	...	98	...	20	...	118
December	...	114	...	8	...	122
Total	...	<u>1,163</u>	...	<u>328</u>	...	<u>1,491</u>

There was an abnormal prevalence in each month of the year, but the peak months were June and September.



Of the 1,491 notified cases, 1,302 or 87.3 per cent. were treated in Infectious Diseases Hospitals. Details regarding the cases treated institutionally are given in Table IV. The number of admissions to Hospital is not the number of cases treated in Hospital, as one case may be treated in two Hospitals. For example, all cases with severe complications, such as, mastoiditis are transferred from County Hospitals to the City Hospital, Aberdeen.

TABLE IV./



TABLE IV.

## SCARLET FEVER - DISTRICTS and BURGHS.

## HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

Hospital	Areas normally served.	Number of admissions to Hospital.	Total Period of institutional treatment in days of completed cases.	Number discharged during year.	Number of days in Hospital per completed case.	Number of deaths.
Inverurie.	District of Garioch and Burghs of Inverurie, Kintore, and Oldmeldrum. <u>Part of Aberdeen District.</u>	185	8,217	193	42.3	1
Aboyne.	Deeside District. <u>Part of Aberdeen and Alford Districts.</u>	218	10,142	213	47.1	2
Huntly.	Huntly District and Burgh. <u>Turriff Burgh and part of Turriff District and remainder of Alford District.</u>	152	7,733	143	53.3	2
Fraserburgh.	Fraserburgh Burgh. <u>Rosehearty Burgh. Part of Deer, Ellon and Turriff Districts.</u>	323	11,706	318	36.6	2
Peterhead.	Peterhead Burgh. <u>Part of Deer and Ellon Districts.</u>	315	12,473	321	38.7	1
City Hospital, Aberdeen.	Oldmachar and Peterculter. (from Bieldside eastwards).	126	3,019	109	26.5	5
	Total	1,319	53,290	1,297	40.7	13





Diphtheria.

As frequently happens during or immediately following a scarlet fever epidemic, there also occurred an increase of diphtheria cases. In 1934, 581 cases of diphtheria were notified, as compared with 179 in 1933. In the Districts, 302 cases were notified, as against 91 in 1933; in the Burghs, 279 as against 88 in 1933.

TABLE V.

Diphtheria.

Age Incidence of Cases (Districts).

Districts	Under 1 year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Deer	-	16	74	13	14	2	-	119
Ellon	-	-	5	2	2	-	-	9
Garioch	2	5	5	3	-	2	-	17
Deeside	-	9	49	4	6	2	-	70
Turriff	-	6	15	8	2	-	-	31
Aberdeen	-	5	14	5	8	1	-	33
Alford	-	1	6	-	3	1	-	11
Huntly	-	-	8	2	1	1	-	12
Totals	2	42	176	37	36	9	-	302
Percentage	.7	13.9	58	12.2	12	2.9	-	100

TABLE VI.

Diphtheria.

Monthly Incidence (Districts and Burghs).

Month	Districts		Burghs		Totals	
January	...	16	...	13	...	29
February	...	24	...	21	...	45
March	...	24	...	9	...	33
April	...	13	...	29	...	42
May	...	14	...	13	...	27
June	...	16	...	17	...	33
July	...	22	...	10	...	32
August	...	34	...	23	...	57
September	...	34	...	18	...	52
October	...	28	...	34	...	62
November	...	44	...	48	...	92
December	...	33	...	44	...	77
Totals	...	302	...	279	...	581



TABLE VII.

Diphtheria.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT (Districts and Burghs).

Hospital	Number of admissions to Hospital.	Period of Institutional treatment in days per completed case.	Number discharged during year.	Number days in Hospital per completed case.	Number of deaths.
Inverurie	9	255	9	28.3	-
Aboyne	79	2,787	69	37.7	5
Huntly	90	2,498	80	29.4	5
Fraserburgh	182	3,936	167	23	4
Peterhead	169	3,110	150	20.5	2
City Hospital, Aberdeen.	51	1,473	39	34.3	4
Totals	580	13,959	514	26.1	20

Mortality:- Twenty deaths occurred amongst the 580 cases, representing a case mortality of 3.4 per cent., as compared with 2.8 per cent. in 1933.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

In the end of the year, a Scheme for artificial active immunisation of school and of pre-school children was submitted and received the approval of the Council. The terms of the Report to the Council were as follows:-

Proposed Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign in the County of Aberdeen.

The question of artificially immunising persons against Diphtheria was first undertaken in the County of Aberdeen in 1924, and, between that date and 1930, no fewer than 9,565 children - mostly of school age - were immunised. Experience proved that artificial immunisation against Diphtheria was effective, but the same could not be said with regard to immunisation against Scarlet Fever. If the Committee approves of a Scheme of artificial immunisation, I propose to limit it to Diphtheria and to concentrate not only on children of school age but also on children of the pre-school period, because in children under five years the mortality rate is much higher than in older children.

Incidence of Diphtheria:- The number of cases and the number of deaths from Diphtheria occurring in the County between 1920 and 1933 appear in the following Table. The figures for 1920 to 1924 refer to rural areas only, but those from 1925 to 1933 embrace both districts and burghs:-

Year/



<u>Year.</u>	<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>No. of Deaths.</u>	<u>Mortality</u> <u>per 100,000</u>
1920	374	13	12
1921	321	17	15
1922	125	6	5.2
1923	108	4	3.6
1924	86	2	1.8
1925	168	10	6.7
1926	151	11	7.5
1927	95	3	2.06
1928	134	8	5.5
1929	359	13	8.7
1930	442	16	10.7
1931	205	12	8.2
1932	217	8	5.4
1933	179	5	3.3

Procedure Adopted:- The procedure which was adopted in our immunising efforts between 1924 and 1930 was as follows:- the testing of children and the immunisation of those found to be susceptible. The efforts at immunisation were undoubtedly followed by good results, but had to be abandoned solely on account of inadequacy of staff. Those children who were tested and found to be reactors, received three immunising doses of toxoid-antitoxin. It is now possible to immunise with one dose, using a new immunising material, namely, alum precipitated toxoid. In the past, the number of visits to each school was six - a preparatory visit, a visit for purposes of testing, another for reading the test and three for successive immunising doses. With the new material it will be possible to cut down to four the number of visits to each school.

Propaganda:- Before commencing artificial immunisation in any rural area, it is necessary to have printed -

- (a) Window bills, which should be extensively exhibited.
- (b) Hand bills to be given by the Head Teacher to the pupils in the school.
- (c) A "reply post-card" to be sent to the guardian per the child; the guardian indicates on the reply half of the post-card whether he or she consents to immunisation being carried out.

In our last campaign, the number of consents varied from 48 per cent. to 97 per cent. (Burgh of Huntly).

Before commencing such preventive work, I hold that intensive propaganda is absolutely essential in order that the percentage of consents should be as high as possible. Unless a high percentage of children of school and pre-school ages is immunised, the result of our efforts at the prevention of this dread disease will not be outstanding.

Proposed Scope of the Work:- In the County of Aberdeen, the number of pre-school children is approximately 16,000, and the number of school children is 26,000. Out of the combined total of 42,000, the number proposed to be tested in one year is 15,000, including children both in the school and pre-school periods. Of these, approximately 75 per cent. will require active immunisation/





immunisation. This makes the number to be immunised 11,250, subject to parental consent.

It should be pointed out that experience has shown that it is unnecessary to test pre-school children, as practically all of them are susceptible to Diphtheria.

If the Committee decide to proceed with the Scheme, it will be necessary to get as many pre-school children as possible to attend at the schools and at existing Clinics for purposes of immunisation, because, as already stated, it is in the pre-school period that the greatest mortality from Diphtheria occurs.

Probable Cost of Scheme:- If we take it that 15,000 children will be tested during the year, and 11,250 immunised, the cost of this would be:-

A. Schick Testing.

Cost of material for Schick-testing 15,000  
children at rate of £8:6:8d. per 1,000 ..... £125: -: -

B. Immunising Material.

Cost of immunising 11,250 children at 1/-  
per dose of alum toxoid ..... £562:10: -

C. Cost of Syringes, etc. .... £ 50: -: - £737:10: -

D. The following additional expenditure is  
required:-

(1) Additional medical assistance for  
one year ..... £700: -: -

(2) Travelling Expenses and Maintenance  
of Immunising Staff ..... £250: -: -

(3) Propaganda, printing, etc. .... £120: -: - £1,070: -: -

Total ..... £1,807:10/-

In estimating the probable cost of this Scheme, perhaps a slight over-estimate has been made. For example, the cost of the immunising material - which has recently been considerably reduced - will probably be further reduced in the near future. The cost of immunising 15,000 children would be approximately £1,800. Of this sum, about £1,400 would be expended in the first year, and, in successive years, the expenditure would diminish but would never disappear, because pre-school children, entrants to school and positive "reactors" would always require to be immunised.

As regards medical assistance, I cannot undertake this work with my present medical staff. Necessary routine and special work would be very adversely affected if the present staff had to attempt to undertake the work. A qualified medical graduate would require to be appointed; at a salary, say of £350 to £400 per annum. In order to evade the necessity of appointing a permanent whole-time medical assistant, I recommend that the appointment of the medical assistant and his salary be fixed for a period of two years. The *ad hoc* staff, so employed would not of course be independent. They would be under my supervision and under the direct control of the Regional School Medical Officer and the Regional Officer in charge of the Child Welfare Scheme/





Scheme - which deals with children from birth until they attain school age. As in the other branches of the County Medical Service, it has been the policy of the County Council to avail themselves of the services of the general practitioners whenever possible, it is recommended that the general practitioners should be asked to take part in the school immunisation work at the rate of one and a half guineas per session of two hours. As regards pre-school children, the general practitioners should also be asked to immunise at their Consulting Rooms those children who are not presented at the school or at the several Clinics, the immunising material being supplied by the Local Authority. The services of the District Nurses would be available for this work and in areas where there are no District Nurses, the services of the Tuberculosis Nurse, stationed at the Public Health Headquarters, would be requisitioned.

Travelling expenses and maintenance allowances would require to be granted to those carrying out the work according to the Council's scale.

I strongly recommend the Committee to adopt such a Scheme as is above outlined, and, if they approve, I further recommend that the Scheme be put into operation without delay.

(Signed) Harry J. Rae,  
Medical Officer of Health.

The Scheme, as outlined above is now in operation and most valuable co-operation and assistance is being given by all the practitioners throughout the County.

#### Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers.

Ten notifications of typhoid and para-typhoid fevers were received in 1934, as compared with 13 in 1933. Of the 10 cases notified, 3 were on clinical and bacteriological investigation found to be suffering from pneumonia and one from gastritis. The actual cases were distributed as follows:-

Deer District	...	...	2 cases.
Aberdeen "	...	...	2 "
Kintore Burgh	...	...	1 case.
Peterhead "	...	...	1 "

Since 1925, a record has been kept of the actual number of cases of typhoid and para-typhoid fever. The highest case mortality in the past ten years occurred in 1930, with 13.6. In 1926, 1933 and 1934, there were no deaths from these diseases.

#### Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis (Infantile Paralysis).

There was only one notification of this disease, occurring in a male, aged 60 years. He was treated at home.

#### Encephalitis Lethargica (Sleepy Sickness).

No case of this disease was notified either in 1934 or 1933.

#### Polio-encephalitis.

No notifications were received in 1934.

#### Cerebro-Spinal/



Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

No notifications of "Spotted Fever" were received.

Undulant and Continued Fevers.

One case of undulant fever and two cases of continued fever were notified and were treated successfully at home.

Acute Infective Jaundice.

No notification was received in 1934.

Erysipelas.

One hundred and four cases of erysipelas were notified, as against 81 in 1933. Ten cases were treated in hospital. This disease accounted for 3 deaths.

Pneumonia.

Pneumonia, in its acute and primary forms, is a notifiable disease. In 1934, 348 cases were notified from the Districts and Burghs, and 122 received institutional treatment.

Accommodation for pneumonia cases is provided in most of the Cottage Hospitals in the County, but special wards are set aside in Woodend Municipal Hospital, Aberdeen, for the reception of those cases who are physically fit to be transferred. In Woodend Hospital, contiguous laboratory facilities exist, and selected cases receive specific treatment in the form of anti-pneumococcic serum. The administration of serum administered to selected cases of pneumonia is nearly always followed by -

- (a) a diminution of complications.
- (b) a hastening of the crisis and consequent conservation of the heart's action.
- (c) a shortening of the convalescent period.
- (d) a reduction in the death-rate from this disease.

The two essentials for successful serum therapy are a recognition of the type of invading organism, and, where applicable, administration of serum as soon after the onset of the disease as is possible.

There were 96 deaths from this disease.

Malaria.

Two cases of malaria, contracted abroad, were notified.

Dysentery.

Ten cases of dysentery were notified, as compared with 18 cases in 1933. None of the cases was treated institutionally.

Small-pox.

No case occurred during the year.

Rat-bite/



Rat-bite Fever.

One case of rat-bite fever was brought to the notice of the Public Health Department but the diagnosis was not confirmed. The case was treated in one of the County Hospitals.

(b) Non-notifiable Diseases.

The four chief non-notifiable diseases are measles, whooping-cough, mumps and chicken-pox. Chicken-pox ceased to be a compulsorily notifiable disease as from 31st December, 1932. The fact that these diseases are not compulsorily notifiable results in an absence of knowledge as to the exact measure of their actual incidence. Information as to their incidence amongst school children is obtained from Head Teachers and Attendance Officers. These diseases are usually not in themselves dangerous, but when severe complications ensue - and these are usually pulmonary - arrangements are made, at the request of family doctors, for transference to appropriate institutions.

3. Housing.

In 1934, 131 new houses were completed and 218 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

In Table VIII. are given the numbers of new houses completed in 1934 or in course of erection at the end of the year in each of the four Sanitary Divisions.

TABLE VIII.

Housing in County Districts.

	Buchan	Mar	Central	Strathbogie	Total
A. Completed in 1934.					
1. With aid of Subsidy -					
(a) By Local Authority	16	10	6	14	46
(b) By Private Enterprise	-	-	-	-	-
2. By Unassisted Private Enterprise	2	-	80	3	85
B. In course of erection at end of year.					
1. With aid of Subsidy -					
(a) By Local Authority	20	28	34	78	160
(b) By Private Enterprise	-	-	-	-	-
2. By Unassisted Private Enterprise	1	1	55	1	58
Totals	39	39	175	96	349





TABLE IX.

<u>District</u>	<u>First Report</u>	<u>Second Report</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Erected at 31st Dec., 1934</u>	<u>In course of erection at 31st Dec., 1934</u>	<u>Site acquired</u>
<u>DEER -</u>						
New Pitsligo	16	12	28	-	-	Yes (16)
Longside	8	6	14	-	8	-
Old Deer	6	2	8	-	8	-
Fetterangus	6	-	6	4	-	-
New Aberdour	4	6	10	-	-	-
Stuartfield	4	6	10	-	-	Yes (4)
Strichen	4	4	8	-	-	No
Boddam	-	8	8	-	-	No
St. Fergus	-	8	8	-	-	No
New Deer	-	8	8	-	-	No
Crimond	-	4	4	-	-	No
Sandhaven	-	4	4	-	-	No
For Fishing Villages	-	12	12	-	-	No
	48	80	128	4	16	20
<u>ELLON -</u>						
Newburgh	4	2	6	-	-	Yes (4)
Pitmedden	2	2	4	-	-	No
Udny Station	2	-	2	-	-	No
Tarves	2	6	8	-	-	Yes (8)
Collieston	2	2	4	-	-	Yes (4)
Methlick	2	2	4	-	-	Yes (2)
Cruden Bay	2	4	6	-	2	-
Hatton	2	6	8	-	2	Yes (6)
Udny Green	2	2	4	-	-	-
	20	26	46	Nil	4	24
<u>GARIOCH -</u>						
Insch	12	8	20	-	12	-
Kemnay	8	6	14	-	8	-
Daviot	-	4	4	-	-	-
Burnside of Kintore	-	2	2	-	-	No
	20	20	40	Nil	20	Nil
<u>DEESIDE -</u>						
Tarland	4	2	6	-	-	No
Kincardine O'Neil	4	4	8	-	4	-
Birse	2	4	6	-	-	Yes (6)
Coull	2	2	4	-	-	No
Torphins	-	4	4	-	-	No
Lumphanan	-	4	4	-	-	No
Logie-Coldstone	-	4	4	-	4	-
	12	24	36	Nil	8	6

TURRIFF/





<u>District</u>	<u>First Report</u>	<u>Second Report</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Erected at 31st Dec., 1934</u>	<u>In course of erection at 31st Dec., 1934</u>	<u>Site acquired</u>
<u>TURRIFF -</u>						
Cuminestown	6	10	16	-	6	-
New Byth	6	6	12	-	6	-
Garmond	4	-	4	-	4	-
Auchterless (Marywell)	4	-	4	-	4	-
Fyvie	2	6	8	-	2	-
Rothienorman	-	8	8	-	-	No
Badenscoth	-	4	4	-	-	No
Fisherie	-	2	2	-	-	No
	22	36	58	Nil	22	Nil

<u>ABERDEEN -</u>						
Kirkton of Skene	8	-	8	-	8	-
Dyce	4	4	8	-	8	-
Blackburn	4	-	4	-	4	-
Hatton of Fintray	4	-	4	-	4	-
Echt	4	-	4	4	-	-
Newhills	-	50	50	-	72	-
Peterculter	-	20	20	-	-	Yes (20)
Cults	4	16	20	-	-	Yes (6)
Oldmachar	-	20	20	-	-	No
Belhelvie	-	4	4	-	-	No
	28	114	142	4	96	26

<u>HUNTLY -</u>						
Forgue	8	-	8	-	8	-
Drumblade	4	4	8	-	8	-
Ruthven	4	-	4	-	-	No
Gartly Station	4	4	8	-	8	-
Largue School District	2	4	6	-	6	-
Rhynie	2	6	8	-	8	-
	24	18	42	Nil	38	Nil

<u>ALFORD -</u>						
Lumsden	10	12	22	-	8	-
Alford	6	6	12	-	10	-
Kirkhill of Kennethmont	4	4	8	-	4	-
Tough	2	6	8	-	-	No
Hardgate of Clatt	2	2	4	-	2	Yes (2)
Montgarrie	2	2	4	-	-	Yes (4)
Leochel-Cushnie	-	4	4	-	-	No
Towie, Glenkindie	-	4	4	-	-	No
Strathdon	-	4	4	-	2	-
	26	44	70	Nil	26	6

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926 and 1931.

In/



In my opinion, the most important rural housing enactment ever introduced is the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. The Housing (Rural Workers) (Amendment) Act, 1931, enabled Local Authorities to continue to give grants or loans up to 1st October, 1936.

Table X. is self-explanatory. The reason why the amount of grant paid in 1934 exceeds that promised in that year is that not all grants in respect of 1933 applications were paid in that year, some being met in 1934.

TABLE X./



TABLE X.

PROGRESS OF SCHEME APPROVED UNDER THE HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926 and 1931.

1. Assistance by way of Grants by the Local Authority.								
	Number of Dwellings.					Grants by the Local Authority.		
	In respect of which applications for assistance have been made.	In respect of which certificates have been issued under Rule 2 of the Schedule to the Act.	In respect of which grants have been paid.	On which work has been finished.	On which work has been commenced but not finished.	Total amount of grants promised.	Total amount of grants paid.	
For year from 1st January to 31st December, 1934.  For period since inception of Act to 31st December, 1934.	253	238	260	269	57	£21,090:10:2d.	£23,671:1:7d.	
	1,853	1,805	1,645	1,654	57	£157,878:19:2d.	£142,480:4:9d.	
2. Assistance by way of Loans by the Local Authority.								
For year from 1st January to 31st December, 1934.  For period since inception of Act to 31st December, 1934.	In respect of which applications for assistance have been made.	On which work has been finished.	On which work has been commenced but not finished.	Number of dwellings in respect of which loans have been promised.	Number of dwellings in respect of which loans have been advanced.	Total amount of loans promised.	Total amount of loans advanced.	
	16	20	7	16	19	£1,427:12:5d.	£1,287:12:5d.	
	34	27	7	34	31	£4,277:12:5d.	£3,291: 4:7d.	





In the matter of housing under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, the County of Aberdeen holds a premier position. Even now, there is no slacking off of the applications received and dealt with.

#### 4. Disinfections.

The number of official disinfections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors appears in Table XI.

TABLE XI.

	Buchan	Mar	Central	Strathbogie	Total
After Scarlet Fever	339	198	241	84	862
" Diphtheria	128	79	32	12	251
" Enteric Fever	4	-	3	1	8
" Tuberculosis	3	3	8	6	20
" Other Infections	2	1	4	4	11
Totals ...	476	281	288	107	1,152

It must again be emphasised that a great deal of money and time is fruitlessly spent on the alleged disinfection of rooms with gaseous disinfectants. With the exception of Small-pox and "open" tuberculosis, when disinfection must be carried out in the most thorough manner, efficient room disinfection consists of fresh air, sunlight and the free use of soap and water. The education of the public will, however, in this connection be a very gradual process.

#### 5. Factory and Workshops Act.

In 1934, there were 970 factories and workshops on the register. Details as to their number, the number of inspections, of notices served and of defects found and remedied, appear in the following Table:-

TABLE XII.

	Buchan	Mar	Central	Strathbogie	Total
Number on Register	317	176	263	214	970
" of Inspections	130	114	151	164	559
Notices served under Section 2 (3), &c.	-	-	6	-	6
Defects found ...	2	2	6	5	15
" remedied ..	2	2	6	4	14



SECTION II.

THE HEALTH OF THE BURGHS.

Population. - The population of the Burghs, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1934, was 39,665.

As compared with the estimated population in 1933, there is an increase of 223.

The population of the several Burghs is given in Table I.

TABLE I.

BURGHS	Population, as estimated to middle of 1933.	Population, as estimated to middle of 1934.	Estimated increase or decrease.
Ballater	1,219	1,238	19 Increase
Ellon	1,344	1,364	20 "
Fraserburgh	10,065	10,176	111 "
Huntly	3,916	3,914	2 Decrease
Inverurie	4,630	4,620	10 "
Kintore	778	784	6 Increase
Oldmeldrum	1,007	1,010	3 "
Rosehearty	1,140	1,146	6 "
Turriff	2,376	2,405	29 "
Peterhead	12,967	13,008	41 "
Totals	39,442	39,665	223 Increase

Marriages. - There were 340 marriages, representing a marriage-rate of 8.6 per 1,000 of population. The marriage-rate in 1933 was 7.2.

Births. - In Table II. are given the total number of births, the corrected birth-rate, the number of illegitimate births and the illegitimate birth-rates.

TABLE II./



TABLE II.

BURGHES.	Number (including illegitimate births).	Birth-rate (corrected).	Illegitimate Births	Illegitimate Birth-rate per 100 total births.
Ballater	17	13.7	1	5.8
Ellon	27	19.8	5	18.5
Fraserburgh	218	21.4	17	7.3
Huntly	69	17.3	9	13
Inverurie	68	14.7	10	14.7
Kintore	11	14.03	2	18.1
Oldmeldrum	19	18.8	3	15.7
Rosehearty	22	10.4	7	31.8
Turriff	41	17	10	24.4
Peterhead	308	23.6	29	9.4
Totals	800	20.2	93	11.6
Corresponding figures for 1933.	810	20.5	73	9

Deaths and Death-rates. - There were 508 deaths, representing a death-rate of 12.8 per 1,000 of population, as against 14.2 in 1933.

The number of deaths and the death-rates in each of the Burghs is shown in Table III.

TABLE III.

BURGHES.	Number of deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.
Ballater ...	10	8
Ellon ...	29	21.3
Fraserburgh ...	127	12.4
Huntly ...	56	14.3
Inverurie ...	50	10.8
Kintore ...	11	14
Oldmeldrum ...	18	17.8
Rosehearty ...	17	14.8
Turriff ...	41	17
Peterhead ...	149	11.4
Total. ...	508	12.8



INCIDENCE of the COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In 1934, there were notified 328 cases of scarlet fever and 279 cases of diphtheria. In 1933, 160 cases of scarlet fever and 88 of diphtheria were notified.

Two cases of typhoid fever were notified and were treated institutionally. One occurred in Kintore and one in Peterhead.

Particulars relating to the incidence of infectious diseases are contained in Section I. of the Report.

HOUSING.

The progress made in housing in the Burghs is set out in Table IV. Excluding houses reconstructed under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 420 new houses either had been built during 1934 or were in course of construction at the end of the year.

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TABLE IV.

## HOUSING IN THE BURGHs - 1934.

	Ballater	Ellon	Fraser- burgh.	Huntly	Inverurie	Kintore	Oldmeldrum	Rose- hearty	Turriff	Peterhead	Total
A. - Completed during 1934.											
1. With aid of Subsidy.											
(a) By Local Authority	-	13	40	18	-	12	4	8	10	48	153
(b) By private enterprise	2	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	19
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	-	1	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	11
B. - In course of erection at 31st December, 1934.											
1. With aid of Subsidy.											
(a) By Local Authority	-	12	68	36	40	-	-	-	8	38	202
(b) By private enterprise	1	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	22
2. By unassisted private enterprise.	4	-	2	3	2	-	-	-	2	-	13
Totals ...	7	26	112	62	83	12	4	8	20	86	420
Population ..	1,238	1,364	10,176	3,914	4,620	784	1,010	1,146	2,405	13,008	39,665
Number of new houses completed in 1934, or in course of erection, per 1,000 of population ...	5.6	19.06	11	15.8	17.9	15.3	3.9	6.9	8.3	6.6	10.6
Number of applications lodged during 1934 under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	6	14



### SECTION III.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme embraces the eight Districts and ten Burghs within the County. The Scheme continues to flourish with the help of the general practitioners, district nurses and voluntary workers.

The Women's Rural Institutes, the V.A.D. and other voluntary organisations continue to perform valuable preventive work.

In the County, there are five Child Welfare Clinics. The Clinics in Huntly and Inverurie were established in 1926 and that at Bucksburn in 1928. In 1929 a Child Welfare Clinic was started in Ellon. The Peterhead Child Welfare Clinic has been in operation for several years. The enthusiastic co-operation of the local medical practitioners, so necessary to the success of the Clinics, has been maintained in the various areas. At these Clinics, periodic lectures are given by medical men, nurses, Red Cross workers and others.

#### Births and Birth-rates.

The population of the County, including the Burghs, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1934, was 148,210. The number of births registered was 2,878, and the birth-rate 19.4. In 1933, the birth-rate was also 19.4. Of the 2,878 births, 436 were illegitimate, giving an illegitimate birth-rate of 15.1 per 100 births.

#### Infantile Mortality.

The term "Infantile Mortality" indicates the number of children who die under one year of age. In 1934, the infantile mortality was 193 and the infantile mortality rate - the number of deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 registered births - was 67, as compared with 64.4 in 1933 and 67 in 1932.

The causes of the 193 infantile deaths are shown in the following table:-

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Number of Deaths.</u>
Diseases of Early Infancy and	
Malformation ... ..	112
Measles ... ..	Nil.
Scarlet Fever. ... ..	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	8
Diphtheria ... ..	4
Influenza ... ..	2
Other Epidemic Diseases ...	Nil.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases .	1
Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs.	17
Heart Disease ... ..	1
Bronchitis ... ..	6
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	16
Other Respiratory Diseases .	1
Diarrhoea, etc. ... ..	11
Other Digestive Diseases ...	1
Violent Deaths ... ..	3
Other Defined Diseases ...	8
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	Nil.
	<hr/>
Total	193

Maternal/



Maternal Mortality.

During 1934, there were 23 deaths of women from causes associated with pregnancy or child-birth. Of these 23 deaths, 16 were classified by the Registrar-General as due to pregnancy or child-birth. Details regarding all of these deaths were obtained from the attending medical practitioners.

In 5 cases, death took place during pregnancy. In 2 cases, death followed abortion. Fourteen cases were attended by private practitioners; two, attended by private practitioners, died subsequently in Public Institutions, and 7, admitted to Public Institutions, died there.

Five of the patients died at home and 18 in Public Institutions.

Forty cases of puerperal fever were notified. The number notified in 1933 was 43. All of the 40 cases were treated in the special Puerperal Wards of the Aberdeen City Hospital, and of these 8 died. Two of the cases that proved fatal were associated with Scarlet Fever. No cases were treated at home.

Fourteen cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. The number notified in 1933 was 7. Of the 14 cases notified, 8 were treated in institutions in Aberdeen, and of these 2 died. The remaining 6 were treated at home, and of these 1 died.

The Regional Medical Officer for Mother and Child Welfare made a special enquiry into all the cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia, and in many cases was called into consultation by the practitioners in attendance.

Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.

The report for the year 1934 under the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915, is herewith submitted.

The number of midwives who, during the year, intimated their intention to practise in the district was eight.

Births in Area or District.

Total Number of Births during 1934.	Total Number of Deaths of New-born Children (within ten days) during 1934.	Actual Number of Births Attended by Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of Deaths of New-born Children (within ten days) occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1934.	
				Births	Deaths
2,878	67	310	4	-	-

Cases/







Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Total Number of Cases during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1934.
3	Nil.	Nil.

Cases of Puerperal Sepsis.

Total Number of cases during 1934.	Total Number of deaths during 1934 (corrected for Transfers)	Actual Number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1934.	
				Cases	Deaths
40	8	1	-	-	-

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Total Number of cases during 1934.	Total Number of deaths during 1934.	Actual Number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife during 1934.	
				Cases	Deaths
14	3	-	-	-	-

Cases of Still-Birth (Dead Born)

Total Number of Cases during 1934.	Actual Number of Cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1934.
59	9

Cases of Emergency.

Notifications were received from midwives of having in 78 cases sent for medical assistance. In all cases medical assistance was obtained. In 73 cases, the assistance was required for the mother and in 5 cases for the child.

Summary/



Summary of Cases.

1. During Pregnancy	6
2. During Parturition	63
3. After Parturition	4
4. For infant	5
	<hr/>
	78
	<hr/>

£128. 8. 6d. was paid to doctors for the above services.  
£19.10/- was paid to midwives.

Provision of Foods.

During 1934, foods and milk were granted to 13 mothers and to 162 children. A considerable amount of Virol and Glaxo was supplied at cost price. The total sum expended on foods was £183. 2. 8d., as compared with £132.10.10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. in 1933.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

There is no definite arrangement for the institutional treatment of County children contracting these diseases. Where the home circumstances do not permit of the patient being properly nursed at home, accommodation is obtained either in one of the County Infectious Diseases Hospitals or in the City (Fever) Hospital, Aberdeen.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Three cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year, as compared with 8 in 1933. All of these belonged to the landward area, and were notified by general practitioners. The 3 cases received institutional treatment in the Aberdeen City Hospital. In none of the cases was vision impaired.

Epidemic Diarrhoea.

Eleven deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis occurred amongst children under one year of age. During the year under review, there was no outbreak of epidemic diarrhoea in the County.

Provision for Sick Children.

Ailing children under five years of age may be admitted to (1) The Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children, (2) the special Children's Wards of the Aberdeen City Hospital, and (3) Thorngrove Home. In 1933, the Town Council vacated Burnside Home, and, in its stead, purchased Thorngrove, Mannofield. A limited number of beds is set aside in Linn Moor Convalescent Home, Culter, for the reception of pre-school children.

Home-Helps.

No home-help was supplied by the County Council during 1934.

Maternity Hospital and Ante-Natal Annexe.

The arrangements made some years ago between the County Council and/



and the Maternity Hospital Directors are still in operation. The County patients are admitted to this institution at a weekly charge of 30s.

In 1934, 58 County patients were treated in the Maternity Hospital and 36 in the Ante-Natal Annexe. The cost to the County was £76. 8.10d.

The following Table shows the attendances, during the year, at the various Child Welfare Clinics:-

	Huntly	Inverurie	Bucksburn	Ellon	Peterhead
<u>Enrolled:-</u>					
Mothers	78	56	92	33	173
Babies (-1 year)	37	24	64	7	175
Children (1-5 years)	79	45	44	40	20
<u>Total Attendances:-</u>					
Mothers	556	547	467	227	3,948
Babies (-1 year)	436	372	480	23	1,918
Children (1-5 years)	358	410	400	258	807





SECTION IV.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Number of Schools and Pupils.

The number of schools in the area is 233. The number of children on the register as at 31st July, 1934, was 27,207. The percentage of attendance was 92.3 as compared with 91.9 in the previous year.

Number of Visits to Schools.

The number of visits by the Medical Officers to schools for routine or systematic examination was 535. The number of special visits, that is, visits other than for purposes of systematic examination, was 363. The corresponding figures for 1932-33 were 529 routine and 382 special examinations.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

A. Total Number of Children examined -

(a) Systematic Examination -

Beginners	...	...	2,944	
Nine-year-olds	...	...	2,670	
Twelve-year-olds	...	...	2,693	
Sixteen-year-olds	...	...	167	
			<hr/>	8,474

(b) Special cases examined at special visits and re-examinations.

7,785  

---

16,259  

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B. Number of children notified to parents as suffering from defects.

1,687

Number placed under observation for re-examination at subsequent visits, without treatment being recommended.

4,265

C. Out of 1,629 defects in children, 1,116 i.e. 68.5% received attention during the year.

In the following statements 8,474 is the number of pupils who underwent the full systematic examination, the only exception being the statement relating to visual acuity. The eyesight of entrants is not tested, and the total number of systematic cases whose eyesight was tested was 5,530 as compared with 5,589 in the previous year.

D. Clothing -

Clothing was found to be insufficient, dirty, or in bad repair in only 14 or .1 per cent. One special case was found to be unsatisfactory in this respect.

E./





E. Footgear -

Footgear was found to be unsatisfactory in 6 or .07 per cent and in one special case.

F. Average Height and Weight of Children -

TABLE I.

No. of Children.	Average Age in years.	Boys.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
91	4 $\frac{9}{12}$		41.5	40.6
783	5 $\frac{6}{12}$		42.7	43.3
701	6 $\frac{3}{12}$		44.2	46.3
46	7 $\frac{4}{12}$		45.5	47.1
772	8 $\frac{7}{12}$		47.8	51.3
626	9 $\frac{3}{12}$		49.3	56.9
792	11 $\frac{8}{12}$		51.5	68.1
627	12 $\frac{2}{12}$		55.4	74.3
47	15 $\frac{6}{12}$		64.7	120.2
36	16 $\frac{3}{12}$		65.6	124.6

Girls.

No. of Children.	Average Age in years.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
84	4 $\frac{7}{12}$	40.5	39.3
796	5 $\frac{6}{12}$	42.3	43.5
406	6 $\frac{3}{12}$	43.9	44.3
37	7 $\frac{3}{12}$	46.3	47.2
712	8 $\frac{7}{12}$	47.2	50.6
560	9 $\frac{3}{12}$	50.9	58.9
724	11 $\frac{8}{12}$	55.5	69.3
550	12 $\frac{3}{12}$	57.1	76.1
41	15 $\frac{7}{12}$	63.2	112.9
43	16 $\frac{3}{12}$	64.2	119.3

G. Cleanliness of Head and Body -

(a) Head -

Dirty or Nits	...	...	314 or 3.7 per cent.
Verminous Cases	...	...	23 or .2 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	155.

(b) Body -

Dirty	...	...	28 or .2 per cent.
Verminous Cases	...	...	6 or .07 " "
Special Cases	...	...	10.

H. Condition of Skin -

(a) Head -

Ringworm	...	...	-
Impetigo	...	...	69 or .8 per cent.
Favus	...	...	-
Other diseases	...	...	4 or .04 per cent.
Special cases	...	...	25

(b)/



(b) Body -

Ringworm	...	...	-	-
Impetigo	...	...	2	or .02 per cent
Scabies	...	...	13	or .1 " "
Other diseases	...	...	9	or .1 " "
Special Cases	...	...	12	

I. Nutrition -

Above Average	...	...	589	or 6.9 per cent.
Average	...	...	7,639	or 90.1 per cent.
Below Average	...	...	246	or 2.9 per cent.
Very Bad	...	...	-	-
Special Cases	...	...	52	

J. Teeth -

Sound	...	...	887	or 10.4 per cent.
1-4 decayed	...	...	5,942	or 70.1 per cent.
5 or more decayed	...	...	1,580	or 18.6 per cent.
Oral Sepsis	...	...	65	or .7 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	8	

K. (a) Nose -

Catarrh	...	...	387	or 4.5 per cent.
Obstruction	...	...	53	or .6 " "
Other diseases	...	...	8	or .09 " "
Special Cases	...	...	63	

(b) Throat -

Tonsils -

Slightly enlarged	...	...	888	or 10.4 per cent.
Markedly "	...	...	332	or 3.7 " "
Special Cases	...	...	153	

Adenoids -

Probably present	...	...	143	or 1.6 per cent.
Present	...	...	19	or .2 per cent.

(c) Lymphatic Glands -

1. Submaxillary -

Palpably enlarged	...	...	1,113	or 13.1 per cent.
Markedly "	...	...	21	or .2 per cent.
Suppurating	...	...	-	-
Cicatrices	...	...	46	or .5 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	139	

2. Cervical -

Palpably enlarged	...	...	835	or 9.8 per cent.
Markedly enlarged	...	...	21	or .2 per cent.
Suppurating	...	...	-	-
Cicatrices	...	...	35	or .4 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	75	



L. External Eye Disease -

Blepharitis	...	...	143 or 1.6 per cent.
Conjunctivitis	...	...	39 or .4 per cent.
Corneal Opacities	...		1 or .01 " "
Squint	...	...	136 or 1.6 per cent.
Other Diseases	...	...	23 or .2 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	140

M. Visual Acuity (number examined 5,530).

Good Vision	...	...	5,251 or 94.9 per cent.
Fair Vision	...	...	177 or 3.2 per cent.
Bad Vision	...	...	102 or 1.6 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	215

(The vision of entrants is not tested)

N. Ears -

Otorrhoea	...	...	37 or .4 per cent.
Wax	...	...	54 or .6 " "
Other Diseases	...	...	1 or .01 " "
Special Cases	...	...	24

O. Hearing -

Slightly deaf	...	...	14 or .1 per cent.
Markedly deaf	...	...	- -
Special Cases	...	...	9

P. Speech -

Defective Articulation	..		49 or .5 per cent.
Stammering	...	...	18 or .2 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	28

Q. Mental Condition -

Backward	...	...	68 or .8 per cent.
Mentally Defective	...		9 or .1 " "
Special Cases	...	...	90

R. Heart and Circulation -

Acquired Organic disease.			29 or .3 per cent.
Congenital Organic " ...			14 or .1 " "
Functional disease	...		170 or 2.1 per cent.
Anaemia	...	...	34 or .4 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	83

S. Lungs -

Chronic Bronchitis	...		69 or .8 per cent.
Tuberculosis	...	...	2 or .02 per cent.
Suspected Tuberculosis	..		4 or .04 " "
Other diseases	...	...	29 or .3 " "
Special Cases	...	...	35

T./





T. Nervous System -

Epilepsy	...	...	2 or .02 per cent.
Chorea	...	...	2 or .02 " "
Paralysis	...	...	8 or .09 " "
Other diseases	...	...	11

U. Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)

Glandular	...	...	2 or .02 per cent.
Bones and Joints	...	...	3 or .03 " "
Abdominal	...	...	-
Skin	...	...	-
Other Forms	...	...	2 or .02 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	3

V. Rickets -

Slight Rickets	...	...	25 or .2 per cent.
Marked Rickets	...	...	2 or .02 " "
Special Cases	...	...	-

W. Deformities -

Congenital	...	...	79 or .9 per cent.
Acquired	...	...	52 or .6 per cent.
Special Cases	...	...	8

X. Infectious and Contagious Diseases - 43 or .5 per cent.

Special Cases	...	...	25
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Y. Other Diseases and Defects. 192 or 2.2 per cent.

Special Cases	...	...	74
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Dental Inspection and Treatment.

		<u>Whole-time</u> <u>Dentists.</u>	<u>Part-time</u> <u>Dentists.</u>
<u>Inspection.</u>			
Number of schools inspected	...	98	24
Number of scholars inspected	...	6,671	2,817
Number of scholars with sound teeth.		2,726	685
Percentage with sound teeth	...	40.8%	24.3%
Number of cases where parents were notified		3,945	2,132
Number of Consents	... ..	2,602	1,273
Percentage of Consents ..	...	65.9%	59.6%
<u>Treatment -</u>			
Number of centres visited	...	92	29
Number of scholars recommended and treated		2,594	-
Total number of scholars treated including "specials".	... ..	2,919	988
Number/			



			<u>Whole Time</u> <u>Dentists.</u>	<u>Part-time</u> <u>Dentists.</u>
Number of Extractions -				
Temporary	...	...	2,987	1,296
Permanent	...	...	1,433	599

Number of Fillings -				
Temporary	...	...	592	31
Permanent	...	...	1,490	192

Amount of Fees received - £62:17:-d.

DENTAL EXHIBITION - The Dental Exhibition and the talks given by the demonstrator sent by the Dental Board of the United Kingdom proved so helpful in the two years preceding this that arrangements were made for a further dental exhibition for a fortnight in May this year.

The procedure was the same as before. The centres visited were Newmachar, Pitmedden, Kintore, Kinellar, Udney Green, Cultercullen, New Deer, Maud, Longside, Crimond, Boddam, Hatton, Inverallochy, Aberdour, Balmedie, Slains, Methlick, Tarland and Torphins.

Care of the teeth should not be postponed until obvious decay is present or until toothache makes itself felt. School dentistry is essentially conservative and aims at the preservation of sound teeth where possible and the prevention of further decay if this is already present.

The Exhibition has helped to impress on parents the need for early skilled attention to their children's teeth.

Eye Treatment.

<u>Centres Visited.</u>			<u>Number of Cases treated.</u>
Maud	...	...	30
Strichen	...	...	22
Insch	...	...	44
Huntly	...	...	91
Turriff	...	...	81
Oldmeldrum	...	...	28
Inverurie	...	...	64
Peterhead	...	...	136
Kemnay	...	...	38
Ellon	...	...	41
Alford	...	...	42
Fraserburgh	...	...	106
Bucksburn	...	...	42
Aboyne and Ballater	...	...	40
Aberdeen	...	...	56
Total -			<u>861</u>

Analysis/



Analysis of Cases -

Spectacles ordered	...	...	700
Glasses satisfactory or unnecessary			154
Strumous Ophthalmia	...	...	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	1
Congenital Cataract	...	...	1
Congenital dislocation of lenses			1
Old Iritis	...	...	1
Styes	...	...	1
			<hr/>
			861
			<hr/>

In those children for whom spectacles were prescribed the various errors occurred in the following proportions:-

Hypermetropia	...	...	360 - 51.42 per cent.
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...		128 - 18.28 " "
Myopia	...	...	68 - 9.71 " "
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	80 - 11.42 " "
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	64 - 9.14 " "

Convergent Strabismus was noted in 19.16 per cent. of the cases of Hypermetropia, and in 6.25 per cent. of the cases of Hypermetropic Astigmatism.

Associated with refractive errors, the following affections were found:- posterior polar cataract; detachment of retina; partial albinism and nystagmus; left optic atrophy; keratitis. There was also a case of a very rare affection - congenital ectropion of the uveae, involving the pupillary regions of both eyes.

One hundred and forty two of the refractions were noted as specially urgent, including the following:- Two of age 7, with + 9D Sphs.; three aged  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , 7, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$ , with -10D Sphs.; one aged 12, with -15D Sphs.; one aged 11, with -12D Sphs.

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## SECTION V.

### TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES.

The County Tuberculosis Scheme was inaugurated prior to the War, and has operated for twenty odd years. During that period the whole aspect of the County Scheme has undergone gradual evolution.

As regards institutional cases, these are admitted to Strichen Hospital, Newhills Sanatorium and the Aberdeen City and Woodend Hospitals. Occasionally part payment of the weekly charge for maintenance and treatment is made to patients entering Tor-na-Dee Sanatorium - a private institution. A few non-pulmonary cases are admitted to the several Cottage Hospitals in the County.

In 1924, beds in Linn Moor Convalescent Home were made available for County children, from 3 to 13 years of age, suffering from intra-thoracic adenitis, from non-infectious pulmonary tuberculosis or from pre-tuberculous conditions. Thus, by treating children before the disease has become firmly implanted, there is reasonable prospect of preventing definite disease in later life. In the past 11 years, Linn Moor Convalescent Home has performed most valuable work. It is indeed a "preventorium" - the only institution of its kind in the North-East.

### NOTIFICATIONS.

During the year 1934, 179 new cases were notified, as compared with 234 in 1933. In addition to the 179 primary notifications, 12 cases were found to have been notified to Medical Officers of Health of the areas where they previously resided and were classified as "transfer" cases. There were also 10 re-notifications of cases who had previously been notified in the County or had been notified by more than one practitioner. Of the 179 cases notified, 86 suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis and 93 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The notification of cases of any compulsorily notifiable infectious disease becomes more complete as facilities for dealing with them become available. In pulmonary tuberculosis there has been a dramatic fall both in the incidence of and death-rate from this type of the disease. The same cannot be said of non-pulmonary tuberculosis; for this type, almost entirely due originally to milk infection, can be eradicated only by the elimination of tubercle bacilli from the country's milk supply. The ultimate aim is for Aberdeenshire to produce tubercle-free milk for its rural population. At present, it is not practicable to eliminate tuberculosis in bovines by the Tuberculin Test and the slaughter of all positive reactors. The building up of tubercle-free herds should be vigorously encouraged but the only reliable method for the destruction of all tubercle bacilli and disease-producing organisms is by official or "holder" pasteurisation.

The distribution of the notified cases in age and sex groups appears in Table I.

TABLE I/





TABLE I.

Number of Cases notified as suffering from Tuberculosis in 1934.

		Under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Total.
Pulmonary	Males	1	1	6	13	12	9	8	2	52
	Females	1	-	1	14	9	4	5	-	34
Non-Pulmonary	Males	12	12	14	6	7	1	-	-	52
	Females	4	3	11	10	9	1	2	1	41
Total		18	16	32	43	37	15	15	3	179

Sources of Notifications.

The sources of the notified cases were as follows:-

1.	Notified by General Practitioners	...	164
2.	Notified by Medical Officers of Medical or Surgical Hospitals	... ..	13
3.	Notified by County Medical Officers of Health		2
4.	Notified by Medical Officers of Mental Institutions.	... ..	-
5.	Notified by Medical Officers of Health of other areas ("Transfers")	... ..	12
6.	Re-notifications	... ..	10
			<u>201</u>

Localisation of Disease.

The parts of the body affected in the 93 non-pulmonary cases were:-

1.	Glands	... ..	61
2.	Bones and Joints	... ..	11
3.	Brain membranes	... ..	3
4.	Abdomen	... ..	11
5.	Other sites (including lupus)	... ..	7
			<u>93</u>

Occupational Incidence.

The vocations of the 179 cases notified are given in the following table:-

TABLE II./



TABLE II.

Occupation.	Number of Cases.		
	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Housewives	26	13	13
At Home	10	8	2
Schoolboys	31	6	25
No occupation	5	5	-
Farm Servants	9	4	5
Fishermen	3	3	-
Teachers	4	3	1
Domestic Servants	10	2	8
Schoolgirls	16	2	14
Message Boys	2	2	-
Chemists	2	2	-
Gardeners	2	2	-
Students	2	2	-
Clerks	2	2	-
Engineers	3	2	1
Children	17	1	16
Bank Clerks	2	2	-
Miscellaneous	33	25	8
Total ...	179	86	93

Tuberculosis affecting the neck glands of children forms the bulk of the non-pulmonary cases.

MORTALITY.

The number of cases who were notified in 1934, and who died before the end of the year, was 20. The percentage of deaths to notifications within the year was 11.2, as compared with 13.2 in 1933, 10.8 in 1932, 15 in 1931 and 11 in 1930.

All forms of tuberculosis accounted for 97 deaths, of which 74 were pulmonary and 23 non-pulmonary. The total number of deaths in 1933 was 99; in 1932, 104; in 1931, 104; in 1930, 108; and in 1929, 113.

The total number of deaths from tuberculosis in the County, namely 97, represents a death-rate of 0.65 per 1,000. The 74 deaths attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis represent a death-rate of 0.50 per 1,000.

Throughout Scotland, in 1934, deaths from all forms of tuberculosis numbered 3,416, equivalent to a death-rate of 0.75 per 1,000. Of the 3,416 deaths, 2,793 were ascribed to tuberculosis of the lungs, and this number equals a death-rate of 0.57 per 1,000.

In Table III. are given the ages at death, in five age-groups, amongst pulmonary deaths during the past six years.

TABLE III./



TABLE III.

Age Groups	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Under 15 years	4	2	6	7	5	5	3
15 - 25 years	15	12	11	13	18	13	31
25 - 45 "	24	34	33	32	26	37	44
45 - 65 "	26	16	17	18	17	20	21
Over 65 years	5	3	4	4	-	5	3
Totals	74	67	71	74	66	80	102

TREATMENT.

1. Institutional Treatment.

The distribution of the 179 primary cases is shown in Table IV.

TABLE IV.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
A. Admitted to approved institutions.	61	48
B. Not admitted to approved institutions because:-		
(1) Treated in Private Nursing Homes.	-	1
(2) Refused to go to institutions.	1	1
(3) Died before commencement of institutional treatment.	2	1
(4) Inmates of Asylum, &c.	-	-
(5) Inmates of Voluntary Hospitals.	6	7
(6) Unsuitable for institutional treatment or such treatment not required.	16	31
(7) Attending Lupus Clinic.	-	3
(8) Attending Ultra-violet ray Clinic.	-	1
Total.	86	93

It will be seen that 109 of the notified primary cases received institutional treatment.

In addition, several patients received treatment who had been notified in years previous to 1934. Others were admitted for diagnostic purposes only. Many cases of pulmonary tuberculosis now attend as out-patients at Woodend and the City Hospitals for artificial pneumothorax treatment.

In the following Table is given the distribution in Sanatoria and Hospitals of the cases primarily notified in 1934, of those who were notified prior to 1934 but who received treatment for the first time in that year, and of observation and pre-tuberculous cases:-

TABLE V./





TABLE V.

Institutions	Insured		Uninsured		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Sanatoria ...	5	2	7	4	18
Hospitals ...	28	11	28	42	109
Linn Moor Convalescent Home ...	-	-	37	18	55
Totals ...	33	13	72	64	182

Duration of Treatment.

The average duration of stay in institutions was 180 days.

Dental Treatment.

The whole-time County Dental Surgeons visit certain tuberculosis institutions and treat annually a number of patients. The scope of their work during 1934 is shown in the following Table.

TABLE VI.

Name of Institution	Treatment carried out			Total number of "Treatments"	Total number of patients treated.
	Extraction	Filling	Scaling		
Newhills Sanatorium	16	2	4	22	17
Linn Moor Convalescent Home, Culter.	14	-	1	-	11
Strichen Hospital	31	4	1	36	16
Totals	61	6	6	58	44

2. Domiciliary Treatment.

Special foods to the value of £386:17/-, and drugs costing £275:12:9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d, were supplied to 72 patients. Forty-eight selected patients had the use of open air shelters.

3. Dispensary Treatment.

Six dispensaries serve the County and are conducted at the following centres:- The Central Dispensary at 4, Albyn Place, Aberdeen, and branch dispensaries at Huntly, Inverurie, Peterhead, Fraserburgh and Bucksburn. At the Central Dispensary, patients are examined every Friday, and at the branch dispensaries clinics are conducted fortnightly. In Table VII. are given the numbers who attended the individual clinics and also the total number of visits to these clinics:-

TABLE VII./



TABLE VII.

<u>Dispensary</u>	<u>Number of Patients</u>	<u>Total Number of Visits.</u>
1. Central	192	222
2. Huntly	28	81
3. Inverurie	20	134
4. Peterhead	48	180
5. Fraserburgh	46	113
6. Bucksburn	14	34
	<u>348</u>	<u>764</u>

There is a tendency to centralisation especially as regards patients attending for the first time at the clinic at 4, Albyn Place, Aberdeen, since special diagnostic methods, X-rays, &c., are there available and most areas are now connected to Aberdeen by cheap and easy transport. In necessitous cases, travelling expenses are advanced to patients attending this clinic.

During 1934, 342 County patients had radiograms of chest or other parts of the body taken either at the City Hospital or Woodend Hospital. Of the 342, 197 were in-patients and 145 out-patients. The total number of films taken was 690.

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SECTION VI.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL SERVICES.

Buchan Combination Home.

It is with deep regret that one has to record the sudden death on 27th December, 1934, of Dr. James Ritchie who, for over twenty years, acted as Clinical Medical Officer of Buchan Combination Home.

Dr. Ritchie was a keen medical man, a good diagnostician and a reliable general practitioner. Throughout, he discharged his duties with zeal and ability and his medical colleagues and the Local Authority alike deplore his passing. He was succeeded at the Home by Dr. James Crombie, New Deer, who reports as under:-

"I beg to submit the report on the medical administration of the Buchan Combination Home, for the year ended 31st December, 1934.

It has been the misfortune of the Home to lose its highly esteemed Medical Officer in the person of Dr. James Ritchie. I was appointed Medical Officer for the Maud Home, and only assumed office on 7th January, 1935. As the report refers to a period which is prior to my appointment, I cannot make any lengthy observations on the medical work of the Home during the year under review.

The accommodation in the sick wards has been quite sufficient. This is due to the fact that acutely sick and indeed a number of the chronic sick are sent to other hospitals in the County. We have still to deal with some of the chronic sick and cases of trivial and transitory illness. During the year, 35 cases were treated in the sick wards. The cases under treatment, excluding 9 lying-in cases, were almost all of the chronic type. Obstetrical cases are examined before confinement and treated as required. It is recorded that all the confinement cases were normal and that no instrumental assistance was required.

There has been no case of ophthalmia neonatorum, but, as a precautionary measure, every new-born child has its eyes bathed with boracic solution, and then a drop or two of a one per cent. solution of nitrate of silver is dropped into the eyes. I am given to understand that an arrangement has been made to send obstetrical cases to the several County Cottage Hospitals for confinement.

The inmates are classified according to their bodily condition. There is no special time for revising their classification, but any one found to be requiring extra attention is transferred to the appropriate class.

There is one nurse who attends to both the male and female sick wards. She is supervised by the matron who is a trained nurse.

The Home is heated by a low pressure hot water circulation which, I understand, is working very satisfactorily. The Home is lit by electric light. The ventilation is, on the whole, satisfactory; it is by means of a natural system, and receives regular attention so as to make it as efficient as possible in the way of securing a through current of air, but some of the wards are so arranged as not to permit of this, in which case the windows serve as the fresh air inlets, and the/





the chimneys as the outlets.

In accordance with previous arrangements, I visit the Home three times each week when the patients in the sick wards are seen and attended to. In addition, any other inmate who may complain of any ailment is seen, examined, and transferred to the sick wards, if necessary. In addition to these visits, I attend when specially sent for by the governor or matron.

There is a sufficiency of medicine and medical appliances, and they are supplied as required.

There is an adequate supply of hot and cold water. Special treatment is afforded by special arrangement, at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, or Woodend Hospital. The sick are bathed weekly, and oftener, if necessary. Cases who are not able to go to the bathroom are bed-bathed.

The sewage disposal system is quite good, the drains are in good order and are efficiently trapped. All the water closets are of modern type; the provision of extra water closet accommodation is nearing completion and this should prove of great convenience.

There is no isolation ward but isolation can be provided for in rooms adjoining the Porter's Lodge.

The dietary of the inmates, both in the ordinary and sick wards, is sufficient and satisfactory both for adults and for young children."

#### The Future of the Buchan Combination Home.

Every year it becomes more apparent that the ideal system of treatment can only be given in the "one-purpose" institution. So far as is possible, lying-in cases are sent to the Voluntary Cottage Hospitals in the County, in each of which - with the exception of Huntly Jubilee Cottage Hospital - the Local Authority have reserved beds under the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme. The accommodation there available is, however, inadequate for the needs of the area and it will be necessary to find accommodation in some of the disused Infectious Diseases Hospitals in the County, such as Ellon and Turrieff. The question of providing a Maternity block at Huntly Jubilee Cottage Hospital is meantime under consideration.

Further progress is indicated by the possibility of arrangements being made between Aberdeen County Council and Kincardine County Council in respect of the Homes at Maud and Stonehaven respectively. For example, fatuous lunatics might be sent to one of these institutions and able-bodied poor to the other. All sick would be provided for in the Hospitals in the County and special cases would be sent to the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and to Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen.

Provision for adult mental defectives still requires to be made, but this problem is more national than local and should be carried out on a truly regional basis, a basis more extensive geographically than that at present covered by the Regional Medical Services Scheme.

#### Other Institutional Accommodation.

During the year ordinary sick poor, other than those requiring surgical treatment, were treated in the Thomas Walker Hospital, Fraserburgh, Peterhead Home, and in the Voluntary Cottage Hospitals, situated in the County. Acute cases, requiring medical and surgical treatment were sent to the Royal Infirmary or to Woodend Hospital.

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## SECTION VII.

### NURSING SERVICES.

#### History of the County Nursing Association.

Prior to the War, endeavours were made to link up the several existing District Nursing Associations and to form a County Nursing Association. It was not, however, until 1921 that the County Nursing Association assumed definite form. There were then 24 District Nursing Associations which became affiliated to the County Nursing Association. These Associations covered approximately only one half of the County but gradual and steady progress has been made, and now there are 39 District Nursing Associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association. Stoneywood District Nursing Association employs two nurses, and, thus, in Aberdeenshire, there are 40 District Nurses, of whom 38 are Queen's Nurses.

But the County does not yet have a complete nursing service. This will never be accomplished until the whole area is covered with a network of District Nurses, and about one fifth of the County still requires to be covered.

In connection with the Bequest of £1,000 by the late Mr. Alexander McGregor Mennie, Brawlandknowes, Gartly, the annual income of which is to be applied for the purpose of providing a qualified nurse for the parish of Gartly, a conference between representatives of the Association, the County Public Health Committee and the adjoining Nursing Associations was held in Huntly to consider the provision of nursing services. At a later date, a conference of local representatives was held in Huntly and thereafter a public meeting in Gartly. Following that meeting it was decided to ask the views of the Executive Committee on the following proposals:-

- (1) That Gartly and Huntly landward form an Association by themselves;
- (2) That Gartly and Huntly landward join up with the existing Huntly District Association and employ two nurses; and
- (3) That Gartly join the existing Rhynie, Auchindoir and Clatt Association, one nurse to overtake the whole of the work.

The question was under consideration by the executive committee of the County Nursing Association at the end of the year.

Again, the County Public Health Department is in touch with all District Nursing Associations and their nurses, but experience has shown that the appointment of a County Nursing Superintendent is becoming an increasing necessity. Amongst other duties, this official could arrange for holiday leave; she could, on occasion, take up relief duty in case of sudden illness; and, chiefly, she could more efficiently co-ordinate the nursing services and ensure that the Local Authority were receiving value for money expended.

#### Report by the Inspector of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing:-

The following is a summary of the Report of the Inspector as a result of a recent visit of inspection to the Queen's Nurses in the affiliated districts in the County:-

"During/



"During the months of October, November and December, 1934, a visit of inspection was paid to each of the Queen's Nurses in Aberdeenshire.

The work seen was of a good standard. The nurses showed an intelligent interest in their work and a cordial relationship exists between the Committees of the Nursing Associations and their nurses.

It was gratifying to note the extent of the maternity work undertaken by the nurses. This service, along with the Child Welfare work, should do much for the good of the community.

The nurses' duties in connection with the Public Health Services were well carried out. The mothers appeared to welcome their visits and were anxious to have their advice and encouragement.

As regards housing, the nurses' homes and lodgings were found to be comfortable, and, with few exceptions, to have modern conveniences. The various Associations are to be congratulated on their efforts to ensure the comfort and well-being of their staffs.

The means of transport in most instances would appear to meet the needs of the particular areas served.

The nursing books and records were entered up-to-date and invariably were neatly kept. The equipment and appliances were sufficient and were in good order.

The Scottish Council of the Institute would like to refer to one matter in which in their view the work in the County could still further be developed and they trust that the Committee will receive their suggestion in the spirit in which it is made. They are of opinion that the appointment of a County Nursing Superintendent would be of great value to the organisation and hope that this question may be given sympathetic consideration. An appointment of the kind has been in operation in the Counties of Ayr, Fife, Inverness, Moray, Perth and Sutherland for a number of years and has everywhere worked with complete success. The County Superintendent does not in any way come between the nurses and the District Nursing Associations they serve, but she is there to help and advise them at any time they may require assistance or guidance from her. She brings about a closer co-operation still between the nursing services and the central Medical Staff of the County Health Department and she supervises generally the nurses' work and undertakes arrangements throughout the County for relief and holiday work. She is in constant touch with the Medical Officer of Health and co-operates very closely with him in all that pertains to the general and maternity nursing and health visitation work carried out by individual nurses in their areas.

The Scottish Council of the Institute would be more than gratified if the Aberdeenshire Nursing Association could see its way to take this step."

#### Duties of the District Nurse.

The nurses employed by the several District Nursing Associations undertake duties under the statutory schemes - the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme, the Tuberculosis Scheme and the Scheme for the Medical/





### Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children.

The duties in respect of each of these Schemes have been detailed to each District Nurse. Her work is most valuable in the first named Scheme and is highly appreciated by the community at large. Her work in connection with the School Services is very important from a preventive point of view. The value of "following-up" defective children cannot be overestimated. As regards the Tuberculosis Scheme, she visits tuberculosis cases who are receiving domiciliary treatment and accompanies patients to and from institutions; she advises the domiciliary case how to follow out the necessary lines of treatment and how, by individual care, to limit the possibility of spread of this dread disease.

### Grants for Statutory Work.

In respect of the statutory work, each District Nursing Association receives £40 under the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme, £20 under the Tuberculosis Scheme and £20 under the Scheme for the Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children. No account is taken of the existing financial conditions of the Associations and it seems wise meantime to continue to give stereotyped grants, even although a few District Nursing Associations are financially in a flourishing condition.

The County Nursing Association takes a sympathetic view in connection with the method of transport supplied to the nurse. If, for instance, the particular Association applies for a grant to enable them to purchase a car, and if their resources are not great, the County Nursing Association usually gives a grant according to the particular needs.

Prior to the passing of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929, many Parish Councils used to give grants for the nurses' services in respect of poor law sick persons. Now, needy District Nursing Associations usually receive, on application, a grant for the nurses' attendance on sick persons in receipt of public assistance.

The special arrangements in Peterhead and Fraserburgh remain unaltered. The lack of nursing services in the districts around Peterhead and Fraserburgh is being felt but the efforts to have the County covered with a network of nurses are not being relaxed.

### Comparison of Work performed in Statutory and Other Work.

There is herewith appended a Table which shows the time spent by the District Nurses on statutory work and on general nursing. The statutory work occupied 28.4 per cent. of the nurses' time and their general work 71.6 per cent.

Year	Hours spent on				Total
	Maternity	Tuberculosis	Schools	All other work	
1934.	24,845	2,787	3,516	78,593	109,741
Percentages	22.7	2.5	3.2	71.6	100

It would appear that the time spent in connection with the School and Tuberculosis Services is relatively somewhat meagre. I am convinced that a County Nursing Superintendent would be able to rectify this evident discrepancy.





## SECTION VIII.

### THE TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

During the Great War, there was an increasing wave of Venereal Diseases and this led to the introduction of the Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations (Scotland), 1916, whereby Local Authorities were empowered to frame schemes for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. Practically all schemes at present in operation deal essentially with diagnosis and treatment, the preventive side being entirely conducted by propagandism and instructional literature.

In 1919, a Joint Scheme was prepared to embrace the City of Aberdeen and the North-Eastern Counties, and this was finally approved in 1919 by the Local Government Board. Later, the Counties of Orkney and Zetland joined the Scheme.

It soon became apparent that one Venereal Diseases Centre, situated at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, was inadequate, and, fifteen years ago, a sub-centre was established at the City Hospital and this has functioned with increasing efficiency. The medical staff employed is one whole-time Venereal Diseases Officer and one part-time Officer. The whole-time Officer is a member of the Regional Public Health Staff.

#### Number of New Cases.

The number of new cases attending for treatment during each year since 1925 was as follows:-

1925	.....	.....	.....	.....	94 cases
1926	.....	.....	.....	.....	96 "
1927	.....	.....	.....	.....	98 "
1928	.....	.....	.....	.....	108 "
1929	.....	.....	.....	.....	131 "
1930	.....	.....	.....	.....	124 "
1931	.....	.....	.....	.....	172 "
1932	.....	.....	.....	.....	133 "
1933	.....	.....	.....	.....	131 "
1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	190 "

Of the 190 new cases treated in 1934, 37 suffered from syphilis, - of whom 4 had congenital syphilis, 85 from gonorrhoea, 3 from chancre, and 27 from non-specific venereal infections; 38 persons attended for conditions other than venereal. The 33 new cases of acquired syphilis are classified hereunder according to stage of disease:-

Primary.		Secondary.		Tertiary.		Total.	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
4	2	4	1	14	8	22	11

#### Number of New Cases treated in Institutions.

Twenty-eight cases were admitted to the special wards of the Aberdeen/



Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Of these, 17 were males and 11 females. Eleven suffered from syphilis, 15 from gonorrhoea, 1 from a non-specific venereal infection and 1 from a condition other than venereal.

The numbers of new cases treated in institutions since 1925 were as follows:-

1925	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 cases
1926	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 "
1927	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 "
1928	.....	.....	.....	.....	31 "
1929	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 "
1930	.....	.....	.....	.....	22 "
1931	.....	.....	.....	.....	34 "
1932	.....	.....	.....	.....	35 "
1933	.....	.....	.....	.....	29 "
1934	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 "

#### Number of Attendances of Outdoor Cases at Treatment Centres.

In 1934, the total number of attendances at the Treatment Centres was 4,355. The numbers attending in 1933 were 3,861, in 1932 - 3,959, in 1931 - 3,803, in 1930 - 3,930, in 1929 - 3,227, in 1928 - 3,061, in 1927 - 3,301, and in 1926 - 2,231.

#### Supply of Special Drugs for Syphilis.

Fifteen practitioners were supplied with 272 doses of anti-syphilitic drugs. Drugs were supplied to only one institution other than the Venereal Diseases Centres.

Particulars relative to the supply of drugs during the past 10 years are given hereunder:-

Y E A R	Institutions		Private Practitioners	
	Number of Institutions	Number of doses	Number of Practitioners	Number of doses
1925	-	-	10	46
1926	-	-	36	288
1927	-	-	13	92
1928	3	62	21	120
1929	3	48	24	161
1930	-	-	14	136
1931	4	313	13	117
1932	-	-	6	176
1933	1	17	7	133
1934	1	15	15	272

In 1934, the Wassermann Reaction was performed in 831 cases, with positive results in 266 cases. The exudate was examined in 7 cases, and of these 4 were positive. Examination for gonococci was made in 467 instances, and in 71 the results were positive.

Of the 1,305 specimens examined, 21 were sent by general practitioners.

"Incomplete/



"Incomplete" Cases.

The main difficulty encountered in this Scheme is the "incomplete" case. Every year, a proportion of cases fail to complete their course of treatment, and, unfortunately, owing to lack of legislative control, patients may avail themselves of treatment but may discontinue at will, irrespective of the degree of infectiousness or of occupation.

Experience has shown that many patients think that they are cured when the evident physical symptoms disappear, but it is well-known that cases imperfectly treated may ultimately develop such diseases as locomotor ataxia or general paralysis of the insane. The great defect in all Venereal Diseases Schemes is that there is no power to enforce continuity of treatment until patients are free from infection or are cured.

Whereas in 1933, there were 27 "incomplete" cases, only 8 failed to complete treatment in 1934. These 8 comprised 5 males and 2 females suffering from syphilis and 1 male suffering from gonorrhoea.

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## SECTION IX.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL SERVICES.

The medical services of the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine and of the City of Aberdeen were amalgamated in 1930 and the amalgamation proved so successful that the County Council decided also to co-operate with the Town Council in the matter of bacteriological services. Since 16th May, 1934, the County bacteriological work has been performed by Dr. John Smith, M.D., D.Sc., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., at the Laboratory, Urquhart Road, Aberdeen.

In order to show the nature of the specimens and the scope of the work the statistical reports are given in detail:-

#### A. Dr. Tocher's Report - 1st January to 15th May, 1934.

##### DIPHTHERIA SWABS.

	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Positive.</u>	
			<u>Throat</u>	<u>Nose</u>
Peterhead	70	83	45	25
Fraserburgh	22	220	10	12
Aboyne	37	244	26	11
Huntly	26	180	21	5
Inverurie	6	12	3	3
General Practitioners	41	248	40	1
Medical Officer of Health	<u>1</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	203	1,324	145	58
	= <u>Total 1,527.</u>			

##### HAEMOLYTIC STREPTOCOCCI.

	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Positive.</u>		
			<u>Throat</u>	<u>Nose</u>	<u>Ear</u>
Peterhead	12	86	5	6	1
Fraserburgh	3	8	-	1	2
Aboyne	-	2	-	-	-
Inverurie	2	3	-	2	-
Huntly	2	2	2	-	-
General Practitioners	2	8	2	-	-
Medical Officer of Health	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	22	122	10	9	3
	= <u>Total 144.</u>				

##### FAECES.

###### Typhoid etc.

	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Urines.</u>	
			<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
General Practitioners	1	12	-	2
Hospitals	-	2	-	2
Medical Officer of Health	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	1	15	-	5

Widals/





<u>Widals.</u>	<u>Blood Cultures.</u>	
	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
	-	6

<u>Faeces.</u>	<u>Blood.</u>		<u>Ova.</u>	
	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
	5	10	-	3
	= <u>Total 49.</u>			

<u>URINES.</u>	<u>B. coli.</u>		<u>Albumen.</u>	
	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
	29	10	27	7
	<u>Sugar.</u>		<u>Urea.</u>	
	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>		
	5	3	1	
	= <u>Total 82.</u>			

<u>BLOOD.</u>	<u>FILMS.</u>				
	<u>Pernicious anaemia.</u>	<u>Anaemia</u>	<u>Counts</u>	<u>Sugar</u>	<u>Urea</u>
	23	6	21	5	2
	= <u>Total 57.</u>				

<u>PUS.</u>	<u>Streptococci</u>	<u>Gonococci</u>		<u>Actinomyces</u>		<u>Staphylococci</u>
		<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Neg.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Neg.</u>	
	5	6	8	-	2	3
	= <u>Total 24.</u>					

VACCINES. ... 2

PLEURAL EFFUSION.

Streptococci ... 1

WATERS. ... 13

MILKS.

<u>Tuberculosis.</u>	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
1	12

HUMAN MILK. ... 1

MILK COUNTS. ... 2

TUMOURS.

Fibroma ... 1

Epithelioma ... 1

TOTAL - 1,917.



B. Dr. Smith's Report - 16th May to 31st December, 1934.

	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
<u>DIPHTHERIA.</u>				
Throat, nose and ear swabs	963	4,856	5,819	5,819
<u>TUBERCULOSIS.</u>				
Sputum for tubercle bacilli	86	140	226	
Pus for tubercle bacilli	1	11	12	
Faeces for tubercle bacilli	1	8	9	
Urines for tubercle bacilli	1	43	44	
Cerebro-spinal fluids for tubercle bacilli	1	4	5	
Pleural fluids for tubercle bacilli	-	5	<u>5</u>	301
<u>TYPHOID FEVER.</u>				
Blood cultures	1	21	22	
Widals	1	32	33	
Faeces	-	19	19	
Urines	-	6	<u>6</u>	80
<u>PARATYPHOID FEVER A, B AND C.</u>				
Widals	1	98	99	
Faeces	2	-	<u>2</u>	101
<u>UNDULANT FEVER.</u>				
Blood cultures	-	1	1	
Agglutinations	4	30	<u>34</u>	35
<u>BACILLARY DYSENTERY.</u>				
Faeces	3	37	<u>40</u>	40
<u>GENERAL.</u>				
Faeces for organisms			4	
Faeces for protozoal examination			10	
Urines:				
General pathological examination			139	
Bacteriological examination			123	
Cerebro-spinal fluids			6	
Pleural fluids			4	
Blood cultures			22	
Blood counts			18	
Differential cell counts			63	
Pus for organisms			46	
Fluids for organisms			3	
Sputum for organisms			29	
Throat, nose and ear swabs for organisms			582	
Eye swabs for organisms			2	
Teeth for organisms			4	
Vaccines			46	
Waters:-				
Bacteriological examination			13	
Chemical examination			4	
Histological specimens			11	
Food Poisoning:-				
Faeces	1	-	1	
Rectal swab	1	-	1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	4	4	
Milks:-				
Bacterial counts			28	
Organisms			<u>9</u>	
Animal/	Carry forward		1,172	<u>6,376</u>



	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
. Brought forward			1,172	6,376
Animal specimens			17	
Nasopharyngeal swabs	-	1	1	
Malaria	-	3	3	
Typing of pneumococci			1	
Puerperal fever (pus)	1	-	1	
Miscellaneous			<u>12</u>	1,207

L. ICTEROHAEMORRHAGIAE.

Blood agglutinations			9	
Blood cultures			<u>1</u>	10

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Wassermann Reactions	24	118	142	
Kahn Tests	24	118	142	
Gonococcal smears	20	39	59	
Gonococcal Complement Fixation Test	-	1	1	
Spirochaetes	-	1	<u>1</u>	345

BIOCHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Blood sugar			50	
Urine sugar			7	
Blood urea			28	
Urine urea			3	
Faeces for blood			32	
Van den Bergh Test			2	
Miscellaneous			<u>9</u>	131

ANIMAL INOCULATION.

Guinea pigs inoculated with milk deposit for tubercle bacilli			158	
Guinea pigs inoculated with urine for tubercle bacilli			5	
Guinea pigs inoculated with faeces for tubercle bacilli			1	
Guinea pigs inoculated with pus for tubercle bacilli			4	
Guinea pigs inoculated with pleural fluid for tubercle bacilli			3	
Guinea pigs inoculated with blood for L. icterohaemorrhagiae			4	
Mice inoculated with material from nose for diphtheria virulence test			1	
Mice inoculated with blood for rat bite fever			<u>2</u>	<u>178</u>
				<u>8,247</u>





SECTION X.

VETERINARY SERVICES.

REPORT BY COUNTY VETERINARY INSPECTOR ON THE OPERATION OF THE  
MILK AND DAIRIES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1914.

No special difficulties have arisen in the administration of the above Act amongst the Registered Dairy Farmers, as most of them are now aware of the broad requirements of the Act, but it is still found difficult to get them to conform to a few of the minor, but nevertheless important, requirements - especially with regard to their methods of grooming and attention to the details of cleansing their utensils and the general hygienic principles which must be adopted in all properly managed dairy establishments. With the more frequent inspections, however, which are now made possible by the increased veterinary staff, it is hoped that considerable improvements may soon be evident and if the Accredited Producers' Scheme should also be introduced into Scotland, widespread improvement would at once follow, as the careful producer would then be able to obtain some extra compensation for his labours and outlays. At present the producers cannot see why they should expend labour and money in producing really first-class milk if they only obtain the same price for their product as the man who makes no attempt to produce milk under conditions even approaching the ideal. Some confusion had also arisen in the minds of those farmers who had newly commenced dairying, as, on visiting their premises, it was found that they had failed to register under the Milk and Dairies Act - not because they wished to evade registration, but because they had become confused between registration under the Milk Marketing Scheme and under the Milk and Dairies Act. They understood that they were fully registered when they joined the Milk Marketing Scheme and that nothing further required to be done.

The number of visits paid to registered dairies shows a considerable increase but as the two assistants only commenced their duties in June, 1934, it has not been possible to visit farms as often as it will be when they are on duty for a full year. It is then hoped that it will be possible to visit every registered farm at least three times per annum and the unregistered farms as frequently as time permits; but the County of Aberdeen embraces such a large area that much time is expended in travelling from one part of the country to another. More especially is this so when endeavouring to inspect unregistered premises which lie in the more distant and less populated parts of the county and are situated far apart. It will not be possible to perform regular routine inspections of the unregistered herds with the present staff and it is in connection with the inspection of these that any difficulty has arisen in the administration of the Milk and Dairies Act as the occupiers of these farms understood that they were exempt from inspection because they did not send milk away in bulk. No obstruction was, however, at any time placed in an inspector's way when the requirements of the Act were properly explained to them.

General Condition and Cleanliness of Cows:

The condition of the cows in the registered herds and also in many of the unregistered herds was very satisfactory. There is a steady improvement in the quality of the animals but most of the cows have still to be imported from the south of Scotland and from Ireland as it is found impossible to replenish the herds locally. There are, however/



however, indications that more dairy farmers will make an attempt to breed their own cattle, and, as the Scheme for the formation of Attested Herds gains ground, there will probably be a much more intensive effort to produce good tubercle-free dairy cows in the County and the neighbouring areas. If there were more self-contained herds in the County, the work of inspection would be rendered easier because the cow population would not then be for ever changing as it is at present, and the farmer would also take more pride in his herd when bred by himself. In a County such as Aberdeenshire, inspection must be performed as often as possible as the cow population is ever changing and although the herd may be found satisfactory on inspection, there is no guarantee that such a condition may not be completely altered in the course of a few weeks.

The cleanliness of the cows was, on the whole, quite satisfactory but there is still great difficulty in getting farmers to clip hind quarters and udders of the cows, and, until this procedure is made compulsory in the Bye-laws, it is doubtful if this very necessary practice in the production of clean milk will become universal. It has been found that if a farmer once commences to clip the animals, no further difficulty is experienced as he at once sees the benefit of the procedure, but many of the farmers believe that clipping predisposes the cow to mastitis and nothing that one can say will cause them to alter their conceptions.

#### Methods of Feeding.

The methods of feeding the dairy cows still remain much about the same, and, apart from a few enlightened farmers, most of the methods in force are very haphazard, and there must be a great wastage in food, as the ration is seldom measured and the yield of the individual cow is not known with any degree of accuracy. Scientific rationing will gradually come into use but it is considered by most of the dairymen to be too much bother and certainly not worth the trouble entailed. The quality of the milk does not suffer to any great extent from this haphazard method of feeding the cows, but many dairymen are finding it difficult to maintain the standard of 3.3% butter fat, set by the Milk Marketing Board, and it must certainly result in a wastage of food on the unproductive cow and an under-production of milk in the good cow. It has been found difficult, if not impossible, to convince the dairy farmer that such is the case and it remains for the younger generation to prove that rationing pays.

#### Health of the Cows.

With the exception of tuberculosis, the diseases encountered during the inspection of the dairy herds were as follows:-

Atrophy	...	...	410
Mastitis	...	...	304
Eruptions (including cowpox)			71
Suppurating udders and teats			22
Retained placenta	...		19
Total	...		<u>826</u>

There is a slight reduction in the number of cases of mastitis but a very large increase in cases with atrophy as compared with the previous year. This would indicate that at some period during the year many of the cows had been suffering from mastitis with the resultant destruction of the glandular tissue and atrophied quarter. Mastitis/





Mastitis is one of the most serious diseases the dairy farmer has to contend with and it must mean an enormous loss in revenue every year, as the presence of the disease is seldom reported to the inspector officially and the cases mentioned in this report are only those seen during inspection. Most dairy farmers recognise a case of mastitis when it occurs but the inspector very often diagnoses one in its early stages and it is these that are more dangerous to public health than the acute easily observed cases. No preventive or curative measure has yet been found and the dairy farmer will have to continue practising the only method of prevention, which is strict hygiene, disinfection and isolation of the affected animals. When a case was found, the affected cow was removed from the herd temporarily or permanently, as the case required, and isolated where possible, but, as pointed out in the previous Reports, it is very often impossible to obtain strict segregation, as no other suitable premises are available on many dairy farms. As compared with previous years, there are no very great differences in the numbers in the other diseases although with the extra number of visits the number of cases shows a decline, but, in herds which are being constantly renewed by purchased cows, diseases such as cow-pox and mastitis cannot be avoided.

#### Inspection of Cattle:-

##### Annual Frequency of Inspection.

Landward areas                    - three times per annum.  
 Burghs                            - four visits.  
 Unregistered Dairies - as often as possible.

##### Total Number of Cows in Registered Dairy Herds.

Landward area	...	...	12,013
Burgh of Fraserburgh	.	...	112
" " Huntly	...	...	17
" " Kintore	...	...	16
" " Oldmeldrum	..	...	17
" " Peterhead	...	...	57
" " Rosehearty	..	...	48
" " Turriff	...	...	26

In the unregistered dairy herds, 296 separate visits were made to premises where milk or butter was sold. A number of these visits was made when carrying out the duties of dealing with cases reported under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, and, if it was found that milk was being sold in small quantities or that butter was being produced, the cows were examined in the same manner as if they were being inspected under the Milk and Dairies Order. The number of cows examined in these unregistered premises was 1,856.

##### Tuberculosis in Dairy Cows.

During the year, 141 dairy cows on registered premises were found to be affected with tuberculosis within the meaning of the Tuberculosis Order and these were dealt with in terms of that Order. The forms of tuberculosis found were as follows:-

Tuberculosis/





Tuberculosis of the Udder ...	32
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough	64
Tuberculous Emaciation ...	45
	<hr/>
	141
	<hr/>

At the unregistered farms, 202 cows were found to be suffering from tuberculosis within the meaning of the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, and these were dealt with in terms of the Order. The forms of tuberculosis found were as follows:-

Tuberculosis of the Udder ...	16
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough	99
Tuberculous Emaciation ...	87
	<hr/>
	202
	<hr/>

In the majority of these farms milk was not being sold except in small quantities but butter was being produced at certain times of the year and many supplied their farm workers with milk. If the numbers found on these farms are compared with the numbers found on the dairy farms, it shows that there is great need for inspection on all farms on which cows are kept. Until such inspection is widespread and frequent, it will be impossible to reduce tuberculosis in the cattle population of the county. Many of the cows condemned for tuberculosis in these unregistered herds were in the last stages of the disease, and, although the milk had not been used for human consumption, it had been as a rule used for feeding calves or pigs.

Where there was evidence of children having consumed milk from a cow affected with tuberculosis of the udder on these unregistered farms, the case was reported to the Medical Officer of Health for his observation and necessary action.

Graded and Certified Herds.

Name	Address	Average Number of Herd.	Gallons produced per annum.
Major James Keith	Bonnyton.	52	49,920
Do.	Cairnbrogie.	96	86,400
Duthie Experimental Stock Farm.	Rowett Research Institute, Ducksburn.	60	61,200
Messrs. The Flemington Dairy Co. Ltd.	Clinterty Home Farm.	30	19,200
J. D. Paton.	Grandhome.	40	31,320
Mrs. F. W. Gordon.	Home Farm, Cairness, Lonmay.	18	13,241

No active steps have been taken to secure further tubercle-free herds as the supplies of certified milk are still in excess of the demand. A number of farmers are in the process of rendering their herds/



herds tubercle-free in order to qualify for the Attested Herds Scheme, and, if only the public would realise the benefit to be derived from obtaining pure untreated milk, there is no doubt that the dairy farmer would very soon supply sufficient tubercle-free milk to meet any demand.

#### Examination of Milk and Sputum.

During the year, 192 samples of milk were taken from cows suspected to be suffering from tuberculous mastitis and examined microscopically in the first instance and if such examination failed to reveal the presence of tubercle bacilli the samples were submitted to biological examination. The results of the examination of samples were as follows:-

Number Positive	(a) Microscopically	- 15
	(b) Biologically	- 25

The cows from which the positive samples were taken were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

Thirty-six samples of sputum from cows suffering from chronic cough, but otherwise showing no definite clinical signs of tuberculosis, were also examined and 12 were found to be positive microscopically. These were also dealt with in terms of the Tuberculosis Order.

#### Inspection of Cowsheds.

The sanitary condition of the registered dairy premises and the methods in handling milk continue to be satisfactory. Most of the byres have been suitably altered to conform to the bye-laws. There is a great lack of uniformity when dairy premises have to be altered, as there are different bye-laws in the different divisions, and it would be very desirable to have a new set of bye-laws drawn up applicable to the whole County.

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SUMMARY OF VISITS OF INSPECTIONS IN THE DIVISIONS AND BURGHs.

Divisions and Burghs	Number of Visits	Cows in Milk	Cows (Dry)	Total Number of cows	T.B. Udder	T.B. Chronic Cough	T.B. Emaciation	Mammitis	Atrophy	Eruptions	Retained Placenta
Aberdeen Division	673	11,451	1,557	13,008	23	35	18	194	284	49	6
Buchan	291	3,877	800	4,677	3	17	16	62	57	12	6
Strathbogie	121	1,910	349	2,259	4	5	6	21	22	7	4
Mar	84	951	228	1,179	2	5	3	11	27	2	2
Fraserburgh Burgh	42	341	32	373	-	2	-	6	12	1	1
Peterhead	9	154	18	172	-	-	-	3	2	-	-
Roseheart	30	130	14	144	-	-	1	4	4	-	-
Huntly	4	38	8	46	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Turriff	15	71	7	78	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Oldmeldrum	3	46	5	51	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Kintore	3	49	5	54	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Total	1,275	19,018	3,023	22,041	32	64	45	304	410	71	19





SECTION XI.

REPORTS BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

I. DISTRICTS -

- |     |                  |   |                  |
|-----|------------------|---|------------------|
| (1) | Central Division | - | Mr. W. Park.     |
| (2) | Buchan "         | - | Mr. D. L. Gough. |
| (3) | Strathbogie "    | - | Mr. G. Watt.     |
| (4) | Mar "            | - | Mr. J. Allanach. |

II. BURGHS -

- |      |             |   |                     |
|------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| (1)  | Ballater    | - | Mr. A. Ord.         |
| (2)  | Ellon.      | - | Mr. G. Duncan.      |
| (3)  | Huntly      | - | Mr. T. S. Hutson.   |
| (4)  | Inverurie   | - | Mr. W. W. Conner.   |
| (5)  | Kintore     | - | Mr. W. Park.        |
| (6)  | Oldmeldrum  | - | Do.                 |
| (7)  | Rosehearty  | - | Mr. D. L. Gough.    |
| (8)  | Turriff     | - | Mr. D. Turnbull.    |
| (9)  | Peterhead   | - | Mr. J. Dickie.      |
| (10) | Fraserburgh | - | Mr. W. F. Hamilton. |
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## I. DISTRICTS.

### (1) Central Division.

NUISANCES:- During the year, 356 notices were served in respect of defective houses. With the exception of 58 houses, the remainder have been satisfactorily attended to and I am glad to report that attention is being given to the 58 mentioned. The defects found were more or less of the usual order, namely, damp walls, defective floors, defective walls and ceilings, defective roofs, insufficient light, insufficient water supply, etc.

WATER SUPPLIES:- During the year, I had twenty-nine samples of water analysed by the County Analyst. Of these, 12 were reported as good, 7 fair, and 10 bad. Three of the samples reported as good were condemned, however, as being plumbo-solvent, and a new water pipe had to be laid in each case. This was also the case in one of the samples reported as fair and one reported as bad, and in these two cases also new service pipes had to be laid down. The whole of the supplies reported as being of bad quality have been satisfactorily attended to with one exception, and this is meantime having my best attention. The difficulty in this case is that the proprietors plead that they are financially unable to tackle the question, but they have arranged for a satisfactory temporary supply to the tenant's satisfaction until such time as a new supply can be introduced.

The water supplies in general all over the Division may be said to have been fairly satisfactory during the whole year. There were several cases of a shortage of supply, but this is a yearly occurrence and only one really bad case was dealt with. Twenty-one separate premises were supplied from this one source and it proved to be entirely inadequate for several months. This was rather disappointing as it was the only supply to three fairly large dairy farms and it put these dairymen to a considerable inconvenience and extra labour in order to keep the premises in a proper state of cleanliness. An augmentation scheme is, however, in course of being carried out and no doubt this will ultimately remove any cause for complaint.

The water supplies in the Special Districts proved to be ample and of good quality. Several extensions had to be laid down to meet the needs of houses built by private enterprise and Housing Schemes undertaken by the Local Authority. Several of these Special Districts will no doubt have to face the question of finding an increased water supply as improved sanitation is taking place in a number of houses within these areas. The improvements, however, are to be encouraged rather than discouraged although in many cases it will mean a fairly heavy expenditure to meet the demands.

It is surprising the quantity of water that is really wasted by many householders when a sink with water laid on is within the house. This no doubt is thoughtlessly done, but warnings seem to have no effect in diminishing the waste of water. Where clean water has to be carried in and dirty water has to be carried out of the house, a few gallons is usually a sufficient supply for the day, but it can be readily understood where no labour is involved that a great wastage takes place.

In 1934, 144 houses had sinks fitted up inside the house and water laid on where before only an outside tap existed. In addition to this, all new houses built and finished during the year had water supply within the building.



DRAINAGE:- Several extensions to the sewers had to be carried out in connection with Housing Schemes and houses built under private enterprise during the year. At the Bridge of Don, a new scheme with large septic tank was laid down and the whole of the sewage from that part is now connected up with the new scheme, as also are the new Military Barracks. The old village of Balgownie, however, is still without proper drainage, but it would be rather an expensive matter to undertake with such a small assessed rental within that small area.

Complete new drainage systems were laid down for the following:-  
New houses - 86; reconstructed houses - 123; and business premises - 2. At other 21 properties the drainage was overhauled and improved.

During the year 223 smoke tests with the smoke-testing machine were carried out.

HOUSING:- Housing continues to be, and will be for many years to come, the principal work to be attended to by Public Health Authorities.

Houses built and finished by the County Council, Burgh of Oldmeldrum, and Burgh of Kintore, were 6, 4 and 12 respectively, and by private enterprise 80.

At the close of the year, the County Council had 176 houses in course of erection, or plans had been passed for erection. In the two Burghs, there were none in course of erection, but schemes were in preparation, and the number being built by private enterprise was 55.

A Small Holdings Scheme of 38 Holdings by the Board of Agriculture at Balmedie, in the parish of Belhelvie, is being rapidly pushed forward.

Private enterprise continues to be fairly active, but I am afraid that the demand for the house at a price from £600-£800 is not so encouraging as it has been in the past. There would appear to be a greater demand for the cheaper type of house at from £400-£500. These houses which may be classed of the jerry type are not the class of house which one is inclined to encourage, but a working man can never be despised when his ambition is to be owner of the house he occupies. I think it would be well should the Government again consider the question of giving a grant for new houses to be built by private enterprise and for occupation by the working classes. Looking ahead, it appears to me that the houses that are to be let and occupied by the working classes will have to be provided by the Local Authority alone. I am not of opinion that this is a desirable outlook. Tenants occupying property belonging to Local Authorities are very often much more careless in their habits and take less interest in the house than when occupying a house belonging to private individuals.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS:- During the year, 52 applications were received and approved of and included 112 houses in all. In that same period, 107 houses were reconstructed and again occupied; of this number, 9 were buildings not previously occupied as dwelling-houses.

The reconstruction of blocks of tenements in the Waterton Special District is still being pursued. The work here is of an extensive nature and invariably means the taking down of the back wall and erecting a new wall varying from 6 to 10 feet farther back, thereby allowing inside staircase and water-closet accommodation off the landings/







landings. Each house is provided with sink and water laid on. The roofs are of the Mansard type and the attic apartments have, therefore, practically the same cubic space as rooms in the other floors.

From these figures, it will be seen that considerable advantage is still being taken of these Acts, and there is quite a number of houses remaining which are quite suitable for, and very much in need, of being reconstructed under the Acts. Where temporary accommodation cannot be provided, very little work of this nature can be overtaken during the winter months. In the Waterton Special District we have been more than fortunate in being able to offer quite a number of the houses in the new schemes for temporary occupation during the time the houses are in course of reconstruction. In more isolated parts of the Division, however, such facilities are not available, but it is gratifying to mention that where reconstruction has been carried out and temporary accommodation of a very primitive type provided the tenant has struggled away and suffered with very little complaint.

There are still many cottar houses to be tackled and no doubt these will be brought up to a satisfactory standard with the assistance of the Acts if they are to be carried on for a few more years. There is more than one Estate where the proprietors are doing their best to improve the housing conditions for the rural worker and they are practically making a continuous programme year after year and would be only too willing to increase the numbers which they are reconstructing, but they are financially unable; one cannot force matters unreasonably when the circumstances are known. Persuasion, tactfully applied, helps to make the work much more pleasant for owner and official alike.

#### HOUSING TABLE.

<u>Houses Completed.</u>				<u>Houses in course of erection.</u>			
By Local Authority in Aberdeen				By Local Authority ...	34		
Division ... ..	6			(Plans passed for 176)			
By Local Authority in Oldmeldrum				By Unassisted Private			
Burgh... ..	4			Enterprise ... ..	55		
By Local Authority in Kintore							
Burgh... ..	12						
By Assisted Private Enterprise	Nil						
By Unassisted Private "	80						
	<u>102</u>				<u>89</u>		

Seven Demolition Orders were issued during the year in respect of houses unfit for human habitation and not in a condition that could be recommended for reconstruction.

TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING BYE-LAWS:- During the year I inspected and reported upon 166 sets of plans submitted for approval under the above.

DAIRIES:- At the end of the year there were 451 registered dairies in the Division, but there will be several others to be added to this list since the Milk Marketing Board began activities. Quite a few have been roped in to register with the Board. Each of these cases will be treated on their merits when they are inspected; where cows are being kept for the purpose of selling milk, the premises will have to be brought up to the standard laid down in the Bye-laws. Licences were applied/



applied for and granted for the production of certified milk at the Rowett Research Institute, and at the farms of Cairnbrogie and Bonnyton. Licences were also granted for Grade A (T.T.) Milk for the premises at Home Farm, Grandhome, and Home Farm, Clinterty. Special visits of inspection were made to these premises and no cause for complaint was found.

One complete new byre was erected and extensive improvements were carried out at 35 dairy farms, and, at many others, repairs of a minor nature were attended to. One party who had failed to have his byre brought up to within reasonable distance of the standard as laid down in the Bye-laws was reported to the Local Authority, and, after due consideration, it was agreed to give him one month in order either to carry out the required alterations or to dispose of his cows and have his name removed from the register. This action had the desired effect and the party went into the matter whole-hearted and with assistance from the proprietor the byre was duly reconstructed within the period allowed by the County Council. I may add that this man was approached on several occasions before I reported him to the Local Authority. He was a very good promiser, but a bad fulfiller.

At several dairy farms there were outbreaks of scarlet fever, but no spreading of the disease was traced to any of the milk supplies. The dairies were immediately visited when the case was notified and every precaution was taken, which had the desired result.

Five hundred and two visits of inspection were made and apart from the improvements and repairs already stated several were warned for inattention to cleanliness and in seven cases notices had to be served as verbal warnings had not had the desired effect.

It is gratifying to note the much desired interest that many of the dairy farmers are taking in the method of handling the milk. No doubt this is being done as the result of several of the dairymen losing the whole milk supply for one or more days as the more enterprising retailer looks after his own interests and immediately any fault is found with the milk he returns it and refuses to give payment. Cleanliness incurs very little extra labour and it is only a matter of adopting proper methods. Dairymen are more and more realizing the benefit of fresh air into the byre and also the supply of water at the cow's head. It is quite a common thing to observe a cow coming straight in from the field and starting to take a good hearty drink of water at the bowl in the stall. The cow in this case can always get water when desired.

Although much has been done to bring dairy premises up to within reasonable distance of the standard laid down, there still remains a deal of work to be undertaken. This cannot be done in a day, nor in a year, but with tactful persuasion, and a little pressure where need be, the work will yet be accomplished without creating any undue hardship upon the proprietor or the dairyman, as the case may be.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- The following cases were notified in this Division during the year under review, namely:-

Diphtheria - Central Division	...	47
Scarlet Fever - do.	...	329
Typhoid Fever - do.	...	2
Erysipelas - do.	...	27

In the Burghs of Oldmeldrum and Kintore, there were no cases of diphtheria, 16 cases of scarlet fever in Oldmeldrum and none in Kintore; one case of typhoid fever was notified in Kintore and none in Oldmeldrum/





Oldmeldrum; one case of erysipelas was reported from Oldmeldrum.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:- Two hundred and nine inspections were made. Six intimations were issued, four for want of cleanliness, one for insufficient water-closet accommodation, and one for defective water-closet. All these defects were duly attended to and no further action had to be taken.

BURIALS:- Under Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, I had to carry out the burial of three bodies of persons whose relatives were unfit to undertake that duty. No effort was made to recover any of the money expended as the relatives were in a rather hopeless financial position.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- I have made a visit of inspection when time permitted of several of the burial grounds within the Division and no cause for complaint was discovered. In fact, these grounds are improving year by year and quite a few have had to extend the ground owing to insufficient space being available within the existing ground.

SCHOOLS:- Owing to pressure of work, the only special inspection made of the schools was where either a complaint was lodged and had to be investigated, or where rather a prolonged outbreak of scarlet fever occurred amongst the pupils attending the school. There are two matters I would comment upon, namely, the condition of the play-grounds and the unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences at several schools. I think it would be money well spent if the Education Authority could see their way to have the playgrounds laid with tar macadam in place of the water-bound system which exists at the greater proportion of the schools. In dry weather the dust from these water-bound playgrounds is considerable and in wet weather the amount of mud that is carried with the feet inside the school makes the cleaning of the same practically an impossibility; when this gets into a dry state and the children moving about in the classroom the dust is certainly a nuisance within the meaning of the Act.

The nature of the lavatory accommodation at several schools is very much out-of-date and ought to be modernised without undue delay.

SCAVENGING:- The scavenging of the Special Districts continues to give satisfaction. The only matter requiring attention is the dumps where the scavenger does not in many cases give this proper attention. Where the refuse is dumped over a wide area, the conditions are most unsightly and give rise to complaint from people living in, or passing by, that neighbourhood. I think it would be well if the County Council would draw up and issue regulations for these dumps with a view to compelling the scavenger to confine his tip to a certain width and depth and it would be well that a portable incinerator should be provided for the burning of all waste paper.

There are still several villages that ought to be formed into a Special Scavenging area, in particular, Kemnay and Tarves. I am glad to report that the inhabitants of these villages are taking the matter up with enthusiasm and no doubt it will be an accomplished fact within the near future. It is also desirable that small villages, which are not meantime Special Districts, should adopt scavenging and not wait for the time when it is thought that water and drainage are the first schemes to adopt. I am certain it would not be an expensive matter if the scavenging were adopted and the removal of the refuse - if only even once a week - would be quite sufficient. Nearby these villages there are many crofters trying to make a livelihood who would be only too pleased to undertake this work at a small/





small remuneration.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:- There are five slaughterhouses in this Division. These premises are regularly inspected and although well kept there are one or two getting into such a state that it is almost impossible to keep them in a sanitary condition. Drastic action is not to be desired, but something in the near future will have to be done if these places are still to be carried on for the purpose of slaughtering animals.

The Dyce Bacon Factory, after having been closed for several years, was re-opened again in February by a new firm and this is entailing a considerable amount of meat inspection work. During the period to the end of the year, 9,097 pigs had been slaughtered. These were duly inspected and of that number 1,755 carcasses, or part of a carcass, were detained as being diseased and for final inspection by the meat inspector. Two hundred and thirty-eight inspections were made at the other four private slaughterhouses, namely, Newburgh, Craigdam, Kintore and Kemnay; 414 carcasses were inspected at the slaughterhouses and 25 were detained as being diseased for further inspection by the meat inspector.

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(2) Buchan Division.

WATER:- The seventeen Special Water Supply Districts in the division are Pennan, New Aberdour, New Pitsligo, Cairnbulg and Inverallochy, Sandhaven and Pitullie, St. Combs, Strichen, Maud, Old Deer, Stuartfield, Fetterangus, Mintlaw, Longside, Port Erroll and Cruden, Hatton, Collieston and Boddam.

Cairnbulg and Inverallochy:- A new water supply was introduced to the village consisting of an auxiliary crude oil engine, capable of pumping 4,000 gallons of water per hour from a spring at the side of the avenue leading to Cairnbulg Castle to a new reservoir with a capacity of 75,000 gallons. A new 4" diameter bituminous steel lined water main was laid to the village a distance of 2,193 yards, with the necessary 3" and 2½" distributing pipes.

This new water supply has been of great benefit to the villagers and has been taken full advantage of.

Longside Water:- It was found necessary to augment the existing supply to Longside. Four-inch fireclay pipes collect water from springs in Braco field and convey it to a small collecting and measuring tank which divides the water in the ratio of 1 to 2, one-third being returned to the field for watering purposes, the remainder being carried by the 4" diameter fireclay pipe to the existing reservoir. No scarcity of water has been experienced since the augmentation work was completed.

Maud Water:- New water mains and an augmentation to the water supply/



supply was carried out at Maud. The new supply was obtained from the Buchan Combination Home system and connected to a new 4" spun iron main laid to the village.

The new work in the village consisted of 1,507 yards 3" spun iron pipes and 293 yards 2" pipes, with one air valve, 16 sluice valves and 19 fire hydrants.

New Pitsligo Water:- A small augmentation to the existing water supply was carried out at the south end of the village. The supply has been fairly well maintained, but, during very dry weather, there has been a scarcity of water in the houses at the top of Church Street. This is due chiefly to the low pressure in the tanks.

Mintlaw Water:- During the month of August, there was a scarcity of water in the village. However, a sufficient supply was kept up by shutting off the water in the tanks between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Increased storage is required and the County Engineer's Department is presently preparing a scheme to provide an adequate supply.

Sandhaven and Pitullie:- Improvements are urgently required to the water supply in these villages and the County Engineer has the matter under consideration.

Hatton Water:- The pipes from the storage tank in the village are corroded and should be renewed with new and larger pipes. The subject is receiving the attention of the County Council.

St. Combs Water:- The water supply introduced to St. Combs in 1933 has proved very satisfactory, and no complaints have been received. The pumping plant is kept in first class order by a full time superintendent.

The water supplies to Pennan, New Aberdour, Stuartfield, Strichen, Old Deer, Port Erroll and Cruden, Collieston and Boddam have been well maintained and no scarcity has been experienced, although the summer was an exceptionally dry one.

Schemes were formulated to form the villages of St. Fergus and New Leeds into Special Water Supply Districts and application was made to the Department of Health for assistance in carrying out the work. A grant was promised in both cases and it is hoped to get the Districts formed and the work carried out early next year.

There are now only two villages in the Division that have not been formed into Special Water Districts, namely Methlick and New Deer.

New Deer Water:- A fairly adequate supply of good potable water is maintained but is owned and controlled by a number of feuars known as New Deer Water Sub-Committee. A charge of 6d. per £ of assessed rental is made on owners of property. In one part of the village, water is obtained from wells on the properties. Owing to the inadequate system of service pipes, a number of houses are prevented from taking full advantage of the gravitation water. There are 216 houses in the village, 93 having sinks or water inside, 110 being supplied from outside pillar wells and taps, and 13 houses drawing water from pump wells.

It would be advisable for the Local Authority to take control of the water supply and form a Special Water District. More comprehensive schemes would then be possible for water supply to individual houses.

Methlick/





Methlick Water:- No scarcity of water was experienced at Methlick and the supply is giving satisfaction.

The wells supplying the fishing hamlet of Whinnyfold diminished considerably during the dry period of summer. I advised the deepening of the principal well, which was carried out and no further scarcity has been experienced.

Complaints were received about shortage of water in crofts and outlying properties. In all cases temporary arrangements were made to keep up a supply, and, where possible, new supplies were provided.

Ninety-six house connections were made to public water mains, 80 sinks provided, 43 outside taps erected, 25 baths fitted up and 17 water supplies from wells were laid into houses by means of rotary pumps.

Water Samples:- Thirty-four samples were submitted for examination - thirty for chemical analysis and four for bacteriological examination. Eleven were reported as being good quality, 2 fair, 4 poor but suitable, 13 bad and 4 plumbo-solvent. Of the 13 supplies reported as being unfit for domestic use, 10 have been attended to, and also 2 of the plumbo-solvent. The outstanding cases are receiving attention.

Drainage:- There are 11 Special Drainage Districts, viz.:- Sandhaven, New Pitsligo, Cairnbulg and Inverallochy, St. Combs, Strichen, Old Deer, Stuartfield, Fetterangus, Boddam, Port Erroll and Cruden, and Collieston.

Old Deer:- The village of Old Deer was formed into a Special Drainage District. A 9" fireclay main sewer with 6" subsidiary sewer was mainly laid on public highways. The outfall is to the river Ugie. The sewage is treated by means of a sedimentation tank and Sprinkler Filters, the solids being retained and the purified effluent discharged into the river.

Sandhaven:- Considerable trouble has been caused by sewers choking in Sandhaven. On examination of the mains, they were found to be full of sand. As the system consists chiefly of unjointed tile drains, a new scheme, including the neighbouring village of Pitullie, should be considered.

Stuartfield:- Four new septic tanks have been constructed at the four outfalls, but have not given satisfaction. If the storm water was diverted before reaching the tanks, the defect would be remedied. Such work would entail little cost.

Fetterangus:- Complaints were received about the smell at the sewage works. On examination, it was found that the filter was not working effectively. The matter received immediate attention.

Cairnbulg and Inverallochy:- New 9" and 6" fireclay sewers were laid in various parts of the villages. Owing to the small gradient, the sewers had to be periodically flushed. With an abundant supply of water from the new reservoir, no chokages occurred.

New Pitsligo:- An up-to-date sewerage and system of sewage disposal exist. Unfortunately, a number of sewers were laid at a very flat gradient and chokages occasionally occur. In various parts of the village house drains have not been connected to the new sewers and are still discharging into the old system of drainage. It is hoped/





hoped that in the near future all house drains will be connected to the new sewer.

St. Combs:- Owing to the unformed streets, especially near the shore, sand gets into the sewers and a careful flushing has to be resorted to. I am afraid this condition will exist until proper roads are formed either by the Local Authority or the feuars.

Boddam, Port Erroll and Cruden, Collieston and Strichen Districts were well maintained. No chokages occurred and no complaints were received.

Special Drainage is urgently required in New Deer. There is no regular system of drainage and each proprietor provides for his own requirements and drains to the nearest ditch, burn or road drain. Only in a few instances are facilities available for the proper drainage of water closets. Of the 216 dwellinghouses, 67 are provided with water closets, 16 of which are used in common with other tenants: 71 privies are in use, 28 of which are used in common with other tenants. From one to five families are using each convenience. A meeting of ratepayers was held to form a drainage district, but, unfortunately, the proposal was turned down. It is regrettable that the public stand so much in their own light when reforms are necessary.

With the public demand for water closets, etc., Mintlaw and Longside should avail themselves of proper drainage systems of sewers.

Proposals are on hand for forming Hatton, Maud and New Aberdour into Special Drainage Districts.

Seventy-three connections were made to public sewers for drainage of water closets, sinks, etc.

One hundred and fifty-five inspections were made on house drains.

Eighty smoke tests were applied to new and existing drainage systems. Two drains had to be lifted and relaid owing to defective workmanship.

WATER CLOSETS AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:- The provision of water closet accommodation in properties within Special Drainage Districts has been very slow. It is difficult to enforce Section 20 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925, especially in fishing villages where every house is owner-occupied and the income of the household depends entirely on the fishing which has, in the last few years, been very disappointing. Eighty-seven water closets were provided by property owners during the year.

Two public conveniences have been erected at Collieston. This has been an improvement to the village and is proving beneficial to summer visitors. The holiday resort of Cruden Bay also requires consideration for the erection of public conveniences for both sexes.

HOUSING:- Owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites, lack of drainage, water, etc., slow progress has been made.

Eight three-apartment houses were completed under the Rural Authorities Act, 1931 - Longside 2, Mintlaw 2, Sandhaven 2, New Pitsligo 2. Eight three-apartment houses were completed under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930 - Fetterangus 4, Stuartfield 4. Twenty houses were commenced under the 1930 Act - Longside 8, Old Deer 8, Cruden Bay 2, Hatton 2.



One thousand and forty-six inspections were carried out resulting in 171 houses being found unfit for human habitation. Until alternative accommodation can be provided little or nothing can be done to improve the existing conditions.

The design and lay-out of housing schemes leave considerable room for improvement. A definite Town Planning Scheme, on a small scale, could be laid out for each village, with definite building lines, open spaces, gardens, etc. I have especially in mind the fishing villages of Sandhaven, Pitullie, Cairnbulg and Inverallochy, St. Combs, Boddam, Cruden Bay and Collieston.

In all these places the houses are so closely grouped together that a free current of air and the privacy necessary around the dwellings are difficult to obtain.

Throughout the countryside and in practically every village are derelict and unsightly buildings. These buildings form a general rubbish dump for neighbouring properties. In the interests of the amenity of the countryside, these houses should be demolished and the sites cleaned up. Where owners cannot afford to demolish their derelict houses, I am afraid the Local Authority will, in the near future, have to undertake the work, recovering the expense so far as possible, by the sale of material.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT:- Fifty-nine applications for grants were lodged, covering 70 houses. Two applications were refused. The work carried out consisted of 22 bathrooms and sculleries, 30 reconstructions of houses, 3 new water supplies, 1 reconstruction of bothy, 1 conversion of shop into house. The fishing villages of Cairnbulg, Inverallochy, and St. Combs, took full advantage of the subsidy, 23 grants being given in these places. Every opportunity is taken to bring to the notice of property owners that a subsidy may be given, when suitable schemes of improvement are proposed.

BUILDING BYE-LAWS:- Ten sets of plans were submitted and approved. These were four new houses; wooden bungalow - 1; addition of bathroom and drainage - 3; addition to dwellinghouse - 1; reconstruction of farm houses - 1. Minor contraventions of the Bye-Laws were immediately remedied on intimation being sent to builders.

SCAVENGING:- The eleven Special Scavenging Districts are Sandhaven and Pitullie, Cairnbulg and Inverallochy, New Pitsligo, New Deer, Maud, Strichen, Mintlaw, Port Erroll and Cruden, Hatton, Collieston and Boddam.

The villages of Maud and New Deer were formed into Special Scavenging Districts and cleansing operations commenced during the year. A suitable dump was found at Bog of Artamford in an old sand pit. The collection of refuse is once a week and great improvement has been experienced since the scheme came into being.

Fetterangus, Old Deer, Stuartfield and Mintlaw were formed into Scavenging Districts towards the end of the year but cleansing operations have not yet commenced.

Scavenging is well conducted in the other villages. The system of collection varies from a once-weekly to a daily removal.

The dumps, generally, are kept in a fair order, but improvements had to be carried out at Strichen, Port Erroll and Cruden. More attention/





attention is required from the contractors, especially in levelling up and covering the tipped material.

In windy weather a number of nuisances are caused by dust being blown from the uncovered carts in use. The provision of covers would do a great deal to reduce this inconvenience.

When the new contracts are issued next May, an endeavour will be made to adopt standard contracts with full provision for dump up-keep, covered carts, etc.

There is an urgent need for the formation of a Scavenging District in St. Combs and, in a lesser degree, in New Aberdour and Longside.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION:- There are 17 private slaughterhouses in the Division, namely:- St. Combs 1, New Pitsligo 1, New Deer 1, Maud 2, Stuartfield 1, Mintlaw 1, Longside 1, Cruden Bay 1, Methlick 1, Strichen 2, Ellon 4 (including 2 in Burgh), Rosehearty Burgh 1. All premises were well conducted and kept in a clean condition. Intimations were served for minor contraventions such as limewashing, more frequent removal of refuse, etc. In all cases complaints were remedied. Slaughtering is carried out from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. six days a week.

The approximate number of animals killed in these premises, during the year, was 4,675 - 3,320 bullocks and heifers, 10 cows, 630 sheep and lambs and 715 pigs.

One thousand, eight hundred and seventy-seven carcasses were inspected consisting of 805 bullocks, 674 heifers, 10 cows, 322 sheep, and 66 pigs. Ten thousand and ninety pounds of meat and 404 pounds of offal were destroyed with the owner's consent. The meat destroyed was - Total carcasses of bullocks, etc. for tuberculosis - 12, heart pericarditis - 1; forequarters of bullocks, etc for tuberculosis 8; hindquarters of cows for bruising - 1; heads of bullocks, etc. for tuberculosis - 6; offals of bullocks, etc. for tuberculosis - 27 sets, heart pericarditis - 1 set. Bovine livers for fluke - 8. Sheep - 12. Emaciation - 4, septicaemia - 2, septic pneumonia - 5, bruising - 1.

Owing to the scattered area and inadequate staff, constant supervision and inspection of animals is practically impossible. Twenty-eight per cent. of animals killed were inspected. The erection of a public slaughterhouse at Maud, the principal market in Buchan, would simplify the whole system of meat inspection.

One hundred and five inspections of meat and other food were carried out in shops resulting in 60 lbs. of tinned food being condemned:- pears - 12 lbs.; corned beef - 16 lbs.; boiled beef - 16 lbs.; peaches - 8 lbs.; salmon - 8 lbs.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- Six hundred and thirty-six visits of enquiry were made in connection with infectious disease. Four hundred and twenty-six houses, and 439 sets of bedding were disinfected.

DAIRIES:- One hundred and twenty dairies were inspected. Four intimations were served asking the owners to limewash their premises. If standard Dairy Bye-Laws were adopted, a complete survey of all dairy premises could be undertaken, and owners asked to improve their premises.

A large number of persons sell milk in small quantities. The premises, in almost every instance, are totally unsuitable for dairying purposes/





purposes, but are exempt from registration under Section 2 of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914. If clean milk is to be produced, strong measures must be taken to get these premises improved, or dairying stopped. It is hoped that, when new Dairy Bye-Laws are drawn up, some definite arrangement will be made in this connection.

NUISANCES:- Periodical inspections for detection of nuisances were made, resulting in the issue of 89 intimations under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. A number of verbal intimations were also given. The principal nuisances were accumulation of ashpit refuse - 18; choked drains - 17; defective drainage - 12; defective ashpits - 10; defective water supplies - 8; defective floors - 6; defective windows - 6; defective water closets - 3; damp walls - 3. It was not found necessary to serve any notices under Section 20 of the Act.

A dolphin, 9 feet long and weighing 8 cwts., was found on the beach at Strathbeg Bay in July. Owing to the offensive smell from the carcase, it was buried at the expense of the Local Authority.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:- There are 317 workshops and work-places. Inspections of the premises are made as time permits.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES:- There are no registered common lodging-houses in the Division. One house at New Leeds and two at New Pitsligo are used as lodging-houses for vagrants. The property at New Leeds has been condemned and will soon be closed. Endeavour is being made to get the two houses at New Pitsligo improved and registered. Seventy-five inspections were made including a number at night. On the whole everything was found in good order.

One owner's premises were disinfected and all bedding, etc., thoroughly washed on account of vermin.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- All burial grounds inspected were found to be kept in good order. Four interments took place in the closed graveyard at St. Combs. No burials were undertaken in terms of Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act.

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### (3) Strathbogie Division.

GENERAL:- As forecasted in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1933, the County of Aberdeen was, on 16th July, 1934, divided into four sections for Sanitary Inspector purposes, each having a Divisional Sanitary Inspector and an Assistant Sanitary Inspector. My Assistant, Mr. William Hutchison, late of the Burgh of Paisley, is stationed at Inch.

The Strathbogie Division has an approximate area of 255,000 acres, a population of 21,547 and 14 Special Districts for purposes of Water Supply, Drainage and Scavenging. The Division comprises 20 parishes which were within the former County Districts as follows:- Huntly District - 7; Garioch District - 6; Turriff District - 5; and Alford District - 2.

Nine parishes, formerly within the Garioch District and under my supervision/



supervision, including the Burghs of Oldmeldrum and Kintore, were transferred to the Central Division of the County.

The following is a brief resumé of improvement works executed within the transferred area from 1st January to 16th July, 1934:-

A new water supply and improved sewers with sewage purification works were provided at Monymusk Village on the lines indicated in my report for 1933. Plans and schedules were prepared for augmentation at Kintore Burgh water supply, but difficulties regarding wayleaves, and doubts as to whether this was the best scheme that could be devised, caused reconsideration of part of the original proposals. A requisition was submitted for the formation of Kemnay Village into a Special Scavenging District. Twelve houses in each of the Burghs of Oldmeldrum and Kintore were completed under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and were mainly occupied by families displaced from uninhabitable houses. Two houses were erected in the Village of Kemnay under the Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 1931, and contracts were let for the erection of eight houses in that village in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. Reconstruction of 3 houses at Eden Cottage and 1 house at Bankhead, Kemnay, was completed with assistance under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act. New water supplies were provided at Forester's Croft, Monymusk and Mounie Castle, Daviot. In terms of the Building Bye-laws, plans were approved for the erection of 9 houses by unassisted private enterprise; of these, 5 were for sale; the erection of 2 shops and the provision of improved sanitary conveniences at Dowanhill, Inchberry and Nithsdale Cottages, Kemnay.

The following report reviews the sanitary condition of the Strathbogie Division in accordance with Health Services Circular No. 2, issued by the Department of Health for Scotland on 21st December, 1934:-

GENERAL SANITATION:- A notable feature of the weather conditions in recent years has been the absence of heavy snow falls which are popularly regarded as being the best safeguard against an insufficiency of water supply. Of 27 samples reported on by the County Analyst, 3 were classed as being of excellent quality, 9 very good, 5 good, 6 fair and 7 of bad quality, which included two plumbo-solvent waters. The public water supplies in the Special Districts of Inch and Rothney, Rhynie, Ruthven, Gartly Station, Garmond, New Byth and Cuminestown, were sufficient to meet requirements during the year, and in no case was complaint received regarding the quality of the public water supplies. At Rhynie, a new scheme was prepared for the Special District, comprising a reservoir of 30,000 gallons capacity and a 4 inch diameter delivery main, which is intended to be carried out during the autumn of 1935. Water and drainage services were extended at Inch and Rothney to the new houses meantime in course of erection under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and the boundaries of the Special District were extended to include these houses. Similar extensions were carried out for the same purpose at Rhynie Special District. Numerous private water supplies throughout the Division had attention. Twelve new water supplies were provided, and 17 existing supplies were improved in connection with the introduction of water to the inside of houses. All new water supplies to which our attention is directed, and any supplies considered to be of doubtful quality are sampled and analysed at the expense of the Local Authority, and this service is much appreciated.

DRAINAGE:- The Special Drainage Districts are co-extensive with the Special Water Districts excepting Garmond and Ruthven, and the works therein give satisfaction. The villages of Garmond, Rothienorman, Fyvie, Kirkhill of Kennethmont and the combined villages of Premnay and Auchleven require to be formed into Special Drainage Districts, and necessary/





necessary drainage provided. Forty-seven new drainage systems were constructed during the year; the smoke-test was applied on 63 occasions.

SEWAGE PURIFICATION AND DISPOSAL:- The Special Drainage Districts of Inch and Rothney and Cuminstown are provided with works for sewage purification. Rhynie and Gartly Station discharge direct to the River Bogie and two outfalls at New Byth discharge direct to an adjoining burn. There were no complaints regarding the methods of purification or disposal at any of the Special Districts.

SCAVENGING:- The Special Scavenging Districts within the area are Inch and Rothney and Rhynie. The important work of removing the domestic refuse in these districts continued to be carried out in an efficient and satisfactory manner. The work of cleansing the roads at Inch and Rothney is executed by the staff of the District Council, while the work at Rhynie is executed by the staff of the County Roads Department. During the course of next year it is expected that the village of Cuminstown will adopt the bin system of refuse storage and removal.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES:- The scavenging arrangements in a community indicate the state of the sanitary conveniences. It is only where these conveniences are of modern character that a bin system of scavenging can be made efficient and economical. These conditions prevail in Inch and Rothney and Rhynie, excepting a few premises where action is being taken under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. As already stated, the lack of a proper system of sewerage in several of the villages is a serious handicap to the introduction of modern sanitary conveniences. In all reconstructions under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, alterations in terms of the Building Bye-laws, or additions to dwellinghouses, the provision of modern sanitary conveniences is insisted upon, wherever reasonably practicable.

RIVERS POLLUTION:- During the year there was no cause for complaint as regards the pollution of rivers.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:- Periodic inspections were made of a knackery situated at Markethill, Turriff. At the present time, the provision of new and up-to-date plant is being considered, and should this be installed, it will go a long way to reduce nuisances which are usually associated with such a trade. During the year, the keeping of pigs, which were there before the bye-laws came into operation, was prohibited by the Local Authority. The pigs were duly removed. The number of carcasses handled was 1,350.

SCHOOLS:- There are 40 schools within the Division, and in most cases visits were paid. Undernoted is a short synopsis of improvements carried out at the following schools:-

<u>Schools.</u>	<u>Improvements.</u>
Insch.	New class rooms, cloak rooms, water closets, drainage and heating.
Largie.	Improved water supply, new water closets and drainage.
Corse, Monellie.	New water supply.
Birkenhills.	New water closets and drainage.
Meikle Folla.	Additional water closets and drainage.

It is gratifying to note that, wherever practicable, the sanitary conveniences of the schools are being brought up to modern standards.

WORKSHOPS/





WORKSHOPS AND FACTORIES:- There are 214 factories and workshops on the Register. One hundred and sixty-four visits were paid and 4 defects, of a minor nature, were found and remedied. One workshop was completely renovated, and made to conform with modern requirements.

The following table shows the classification of the factories and workshops:-

Bakers	11
Blacksmiths	48
Boot and Shoemakers	25
Cycle Repairers	18
Distilleries	2
Dressmakers and Milliners	3
Electricians	2
Engineers	4
Joiners	36
Laundries	2
Meal and Saw Mills	28
Petrol Stations	4
Plumber	1
Saddlers	3
Tailors	22
Tweed and Wool Mills	3
Watchmakers	2

BURIAL GROUNDS:- Extensions or repairs to boundary walls were carried out at Inch, Huntly and Rhynie. The District Councils continue to take an active interest in the conduct and supervision of the burial grounds.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- Two hundred and seventy-four cases were notified and dealt with; of these, 185 were scarlet fever, 41 diphtheria, 35 pneumonia, 7 tuberculosis, 4 erysipelas, and 1 each of meningitis and typhoid fever.

The cases removed to hospital were 156 scarlet fever, 34 diphtheria, 13 pneumonia, 3 tuberculosis, 1 meningitis and 1 typhoid fever.

In addition to these, and during the first six months of the year, 27 cases in the parish of Tarves were dealt with, of which 23 were scarlet fever and 4 diphtheria. Nineteen cases of scarlet fever and 4 diphtheria were removed to hospital.

HOUSING:- During the year, considerable progress has been made with regard to this important branch of public health work.

Of 150 houses dealt with in terms of Section 16 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, 19 were rendered fit for human habitation, 3 were demolished and 1 closed, while notice of intention to make a demolition order was given in 127 cases.

For the first time since it became the duty of the Local Authority to provide houses for persons of the working classes, active measures have been taken for the rehousing of families whose houses have been dealt with as unfit for human habitation. It is expected that 78 houses will be completed and occupied about mid-summer 1935. Herewith is a table showing the situation, number and size of houses at present in course of erection:-

HOUSING/



HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

Situation	Houses in course of erection		Total in course of erection	Total proposed during 1934-38.
	3 apartments	4 apartments		
Auchterless	4	-	4	4
Badenscoth	-	-	-	4
Cairnie	-	-	-	4
Clatt	2	-	2	4
Cuminestown	6	-	6	16
Drumblade	8	-	8	8
Fisherie	-	-	-	2
Forgue	6	2	8	8
Fyvie Village	2	-	2	8
Garmond	4	-	4	4
Gartly	8	-	8	8
Insch	12	-	12	20
Kennethmont	4	-	4	8
Largue, Forgue	6	-	6	6
New Byth	6	-	6	12
Rhynie	6	2	8	8
Rothienorman	-	-	-	8
Total	74	4	78	132

A few of those houses are being built for occupation by farm servants, who will be displaced, but it is fairly obvious that the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, does not meet the case of that class of worker.

Similarly, regarding defective houses on crofts, the Act is of little practical value. In both cases, there is a likelihood of the tenant losing his occupation, and the present state of unemployment does not admit of risks in that direction.

The case of the rural worker would be largely met if a subsidy equal to that given for reconditioning an existing house in terms of the Rural Workers Act were available for an entirely new house.

Under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 42 houses were reconditioned with assistance. The nature of the improvements consisted of:- heightening of walls; provision of adequate light; ventilation and sanitary conveniences; provision of food store, scullery and additional bedroom; renewal of roofs and floors; protection against dampness, and internal covering of walls, at present plastered on stone; the introduction of water supplies, and the provision of adequate drainage.

Under the Building Bye-laws, 32 houses were reconstructed or improved.

Under/



Under the Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 14 new houses were completed and occupied, while 2 were provided under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924. Those houses were situated as follows:-

Cuminestown	6
New Byth	4
Garmond	2
Forgue	2
Insch	2

DAIRIES:- Of the 20 parishes comprising the Division, the Sanitary Inspector is dairy inspector for thirteen parishes in which are situated 24 registered premises. Periodic inspections were paid to all the dairies. The standard of cleanliness and construction of the byres were found to be on the whole quite satisfactory. It is felt that a uniform set of bye-laws should be provided for the whole County. During the year seven notices were given to dairymen requiring improvements to be carried out. These were all attended to.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:- There are two private slaughterhouses licensed within the Division, one being at Insch and the other at Fyvie. In the former, practically no business is done, while in the case of Fyvie, a licence is in operation for every working day of the week from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. These extended hours do not appear to be necessary, as slaughtering is usually limited to one day per week and the licence should be amended accordingly. The slaughterhouses were visited regularly. Two thousand, eight hundred and eighty-six lbs. of meat and 15 lbs. of other foods were seized and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption.

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(4) Mar Division.

WATER SUPPLY:- The Special Water Supply Districts are the villages of Aboyne, Alford, Braemar, Kincardine O'Neil, Lumphanan, Lumsden, Montgarrie, Tarland and Torphins.

Aboyne:- The supply during the past year was sufficient to meet the needs of the village and no shortage was experienced.

Alford:- The foregoing remarks apply here also, the supply being sufficient.

Braemar:- A slight shortage of water was experienced in the spring of the year, but this was rectified when a leak found in the Castleton reservoir was repaired.

An existing water main was found to be badly corroded, and this was replaced by 200 yards 2" cast iron pipe.

Kincardine O'Neil:- The supply here was sufficient to meet the demands.

Lumphanan:- The hamlet of Burnside suffered from a shortage of water/







water, and to obviate this a new water main was laid; this is giving every satisfaction.

Lumsden:- The water supply was sufficient to meet the needs of the villagers, and no shortage was experienced.

Montgarrie:- Arrangements are practically completed for the augmentation of the water supply to this village from the farm of Whiteside, Tullynessle. There is an excellent supply of water which will meet the needs of the village for many years.

Tarland:- A shortage of water was experienced here during the summer months, but it is expected that a recurrence of this will be obviated when the present proposal to augment the supply is carried out.

Torphins:- There is no special feature requiring mention regarding the supply to this village.

There is a prospect of the villages of Dinnet and Logie-Coldstone being formed into Special Water Districts at an early date.

The improvement of water supplies to farms, crofts and cottar houses outwith the Special Districts continues.

Twelve samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year. Eight of these were found to be good, 2 fair and 2 bad. New supplies have been provided where the result of the analysis was unsatisfactory.

DRAINAGE:- The following are Special Drainage Districts:- Aboyne, Alford, Braemar, Dinnet, Kincardine O'Neil, Lumphanan, Lumsden, Tarland and Torphins.

Aboyne:- The disposal works have been carried on in a satisfactory manner and no complaints have arisen. A complaint was received regarding smell from a sewer manhole during the very warm summer months, but this was rectified when the sewer was flushed out.

Alford, Braemar, Dinnet, Kincardine O'Neil, Lumphanan, Tarland, and Torphins:- The sewers and disposal works in these villages have acted satisfactorily and call for no comment.

Lumsden:- During the year the work in connection with the sewers and disposal works was completed. These have now been in operation for some time and are giving satisfactory results.

NUISANCES:- All complaints received regarding nuisances were investigated and in most cases were dealt with by verbal intimation.

Two complaints were received during the summer months regarding pollution by campers of the River Dee and its tributary the Gairn. On investigation, along with the Medical Officer of Health, no cause for complaint was found. Following on the complaints, however, constant supervision was exercised in connection with the camps.

Notices under Section 20 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served on the owner and occupier of premises where a defective drain existed, but so far no further action has been taken.

SCAVENGING:- The following villages are Special Scavenging Districts:- Aboyne, Alford, Braemar, Lumsden and Torphins.

Aboyne/



Aboyne:- The scavenging of the village has been carried on in a satisfactory manner, but the refuse depot calls for some comment. It was found here on inspection, that there was no systematic "controlled tipping". The method in force was simply to deposit the refuse over the face of the depot, and this face had risen to a height of about 12 feet. This practice was stopped and the high face blinded over and dumping was continued at another part of the depot where the height of face was about 6 feet. This is gradually being reduced to a height of 4 feet, and while the depot is not yet all that is required, there is nevertheless a great improvement.

Alford:- The scavenging of the village and the refuse depot have both been carried on in a satisfactory manner.

Braemar:- No complaints were recieved regarding the scavenging of the village and no cause for complaint was found.

The refuse collection and disposal are carried out by a contractor, who commenced an unauthorised depot. As this might have led to complaints, the practice was stopped. The refuse depot proper was inspected on several occasions and no objection was found to the method in force for disposal of refuse.

During the winter months it is the custom to deposit refuse in the Princess Royal Park for filling up purposes. It was found on inspection that papers and rubbish were being burned here too, but, owing to the close proximity of the public road and houses, this was stopped. The depositing of ashes continues and subsequent inspections have shown that this is being done in such a manner as to prevent nuisance arising.

Lumsden:- During the year, Lumsden was formed into a Special Scavenging District and ground was procured for a refuse depot, but cleansing operations have not yet commenced.

Torphins:- The refuse collection in this village is carried on by a contractor who keeps the refuse depot in satisfactory condition.

Lumphanan:- There is no method of refuse collection in this village, and enquiries have been made regarding this. There is a refuse depot which was formed by the Amenities Committee, but the fact that some of the villagers would have to carry their refuse about half a mile tends to failure. The formation of the village into a Special Scavenging District should be done without delay.

Tarland:- The formation of this village into a Special Scavenging District is meantime under consideration.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- The total number of cases notified during the year was 417. Of these, 328 cases received treatment in Isolation Hospitals. Three hundred and fifty-three visits of enquiry were made and disinfection of houses and bedding was carried out where infectious disease occurred.

The number of cases was, in comparison with former years, very high, but this high incidence seems to have been widespread.

HOUSING:- Three hundred and eleven houses were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, and, of these, 27 were considered unfit for human habitation. Fifteen notices were served by the Local Authority in terms of Section 16 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and 10 Demolition Orders were made under Section/





Section 16 (3) of the Act. Intimations were given to the owners to provide sufficient water closet accommodation at 23 houses. In all cases the requirements were complied with.

Twenty-eight houses are in course of erection by the Local Authority under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. These are distributed as follows:- 10 at Alford, 8 at Lumsden, 4 at Logie-Coldstone, 4 at Kincardine O'Neil, and 2 at Strathdon.

Negotiations are proceeding for the acquisition of land for the erection of houses by the Local Authority at Birse, Montgarrie, Tarland and Torphins.

Under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 9 houses were reconstructed or improved.

One four-roomed house was built by private enterprise.

Twenty-four houses were improved by the owners without assistance.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:- There are 15 private slaughterhouses in the Division. One new licence was granted during the year.

As a general rule, the standard of cleanliness is fairly satisfactory, although in one or two cases attention had to be directed to the fact that premises were not cleaned out immediately after slaughtering had taken place.

The licensed premises are widely scattered and strict supervision is rather difficult.

During the year, 318 visits of inspection were made, and 453 carcasses were inspected. Practically the whole of the animals slaughtered are for home consumption.

1,442 lbs. of meat and 237 lbs. offal were seized and destroyed, in every case with the owners' consent.

100 inspections of meat and other foods were made at shops.

SCHOOLS:- The principal schools in the Division were visited, and generally were found to be kept in satisfactory condition.

WORKSHOPS:- There are 176 workshops and 130 inspections were made. The standard of cleanliness is fairly satisfactory and any complaints were rectified on attention being directed to them.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- These, in so far as inspected, were found to be in good order, and no complaints were received or found regarding them.

BURIALS:- There was one burial under Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS:- There are 28 registered dairies in the Division; two new applications for Registration were granted during the year. Fifty-six visits of inspection were made, and generally the premises were found to be in satisfactory condition. Minor complaints, such as want of limewashing, etc., were rectified on attention being called to them.

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## II. BURGHS.

### (1) Ballater.

WATER SUPPLY:- The water supply is drawn from the River Gairn at a point about one and a half miles outwith the Burgh. The water is of excellent quality and contains very little foreign matter as tests before and after filtration have shown. Before entering the reservoir it passes through filters of the sand and shingle type, which give every satisfaction. From the reservoir it is carried to the Burgh in two cast iron pipes of seven and four inch diameter, and is then distributed to the various points in mains of three inches diameter. The supply easily meets the demand, and never at any time has there been any danger of a shortage. The only complaint during the year was that a few houses, which are connected at the highest point of the mains, felt a lack of pressure during the early hours of the forenoon during the busiest months of the season, when the population is quite double what it is during the rest of the year. It is, of course, in the early part of the forenoon that the largest amount of water is used at that time of year. This matter is meantime being investigated.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE:- The system continues to give every satisfaction and no alterations have been necessary during the year. According to the nature of the ground the sewers have all sufficient fall and no pumps are required. All main sewers are flushed out at regular intervals with a good supply of water from the water mains which have all scour valves. Nothing in the nature of a serious choke ever occurs. The outfall discharges into the irrigation farm belonging to the Aberdeen Town Council, situated about one mile outwith the Burgh boundary.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING:- All household refuse is collected daily by a horse-drawn lorry, which is contracted for yearly. The hours of collection are between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. The refuse is disposed of in a dump situated about one and a half miles from the Burgh. The dump is on a piece of waste ground remote from any buildings; it is kept well fenced against cattle, etc. Vermin are kept down by poison and traps. All street sweepings are collected by a hand-cart and dumped in waste places outside the Burgh in such a way that there is no danger of causing a nuisance.

SCHOOLS:- There is one school in the Burgh, which is always kept in a very satisfactory manner.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:- There is nothing of the factory nature in the Burgh. All workshops are always kept in a very clean state, and all have plenty working space for the numbers employed in them. The sanitary arrangements are all quite satisfactory. They are all visited regularly and no proceedings have been found necessary during the year.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS:- There are two milkshops in the Burgh. The rest of the milk trade is done by milk carts which come in from outlying farms. All this is now under the control of the County Inspector.

HOUSING:- The housing problem is a very difficult one here as far as working-class houses are concerned. The cost of building seems to be very high and the result is that it is very difficult to build houses suitable for working men and their families at a rent they/



they are able to pay, for the majority of the working men here are not in steady employment; they have often a lot of broken time, and their rent and taxes are rather a serious matter for them. There are a few cases of over-crowding here - all of them working men with extra large families. To build houses, with the rooms they would require, would mean that the rents would be far beyond their means. The Town Council are at present going very fully into this matter and hope that soon they will manage to overcome this problem. The Town Council have just completed one block of four houses, which will bring relief to some of those who are at present in sublets. There is nothing of the slum condition here, and all the children in the overcrowded houses are always in the best of health and kept in a very clean and tidy condition.

HOUSES WITHOUT WATER OR SINKS:- The number of houses without water and sinks inside is 39; a slight reduction in this number is expected on an early date.

WATER CLOSETS USED IN COMMON BY MORE THAN ONE TENANT:-

25	Closets	with	2	tenants	each.
11	"	"	3	"	"
1	"	"	4	"	"

OFFENSIVE TRADES:- None within the Burgh.

LODGING HOUSES:- None within the Burgh.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- None within the Burgh.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:- The County Police attend to this.

NUISANCES:- Choked house drains are the only nuisances which have arisen. They have always been attended to at once, and no proceedings have been necessary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- These are under the County Sanitary Inspector, who does all disinfecting, etc.

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(2) Ellon.

WATER SUPPLY:- The water supply continues to be of good quality, but was insufficient during the past summer months and had to be shut off almost every night.

During the autumn the water supply was augmented, and there is now an abundant supply to meet the present day requirements and all purposes for some time. The Council has taken in four springs from the farm of Ardarg, Ellon, which is pure water. This supply and the original supplies from Harewell will now be about 90 gallons per head of the population during the dry season, and should be sufficient to meet all purposes.

The distribution system throughout the Burgh has given every satisfaction throughout the year, and was greatly improved by laying a six inch main from the eight inch main at Hornhillock Road to the south/





south end of Bridge Street at its junction with Ythan Terrace. A four inch main has also been laid along Gordon Terrace, and also one from Station Road to Park Terrace (housing Scheme); this should now give every householder an ample supply of water.

DRAINAGE:- The drains and sewers throughout the Burgh have all been functioning properly during the year. Sewers in parts of Station Road, The Square and Ythan Terrace, require to be scoured every two years to keep them in proper working order. The Sewer from Forester's Terrace and Park Terrace is discharged into septic tanks which is a great improvement. The remainder of the drains and sewers discharge into the river Ythan and during the summer months, or when the river is low, the bed of the river at the mouth of the drains and sewers has to be frequently cleaned.

NUISANCES AND CLEANSING OF THE BURGH:- Complaints received in respect of nuisances due to choked drains, defective houses and offensive smells, were all carefully investigated and dealt with - either verbal or written intimation being given where necessary.

The refuse throughout the Burgh is collected by two carts daily between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., and this is satisfactory. The refuse dump is outside the Burgh boundary, and the dumping is carried out in accordance with the Department of Health Regulations.

The provision of better or improved dustbins is still desirable but there was a slight improvement during the year. It is still the practice of a good many householders to put waste paper, straw and other combustible material, into uncovered dustbins and boxes. Householders should be reminded that dustbins should have properly fitted lids, so that the contents be kept dry, and only ashes be put into them, and if this was done it would greatly help towards the cleanliness of the Burgh.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS:- General inspections were carried out as formerly. Special inspections were made in cases of complaint, and in houses where sanitary improvements were being carried out.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS:- The cleansing of the schools during the year, has been well and efficiently done and they have been kept in a first class sanitary condition.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS:- There is only one house let in lodgings in the Burgh. Frequent inspections were made during the year, and it was found to be kept properly clean and sanitary, and that the Bye-laws were being complied with.

BURIAL GROUND:- The Old Church Yard is the only burial ground in the Burgh. Very few interments take place. The Lairs and grounds are kept in good order.

HOUSING:- During the year housing conditions in the Burgh have been greatly improved by the Slum Clearance Scheme, which the Burgh Council have been proceeding with. Twelve houses of three rooms each have been completed; eleven are occupied, and the other will be occupied within the next fortnight. The Council are proceeding with another twelve houses of the same type, which when occupied will solve to a great extent the housing conditions of the Burgh.

There have been issued ten demolition orders; two undertakings have been given and one case is meantime under discussion.

Additional/





Additional houses of four rooms are urgently required to solve the question of overcrowded houses in properties which cannot be dealt with under the Slum Clearance Scheme. I have no hesitation in stating that in the case of overcrowding urgent improved housing conditions are as much required as in the case of the slum dweller.

The next question to be dealt with is the unsatisfactory condition of a number of properties which do not come within the category of uninhabitable. These properties require extensive structural alterations and repairs, and also water and sinks inside the houses in order to render them reasonably fit for human habitation. This should be brought to the notice of landlords concerned, who should be requested to carry out the repairs, and instal water and sinks where necessary.

Houses without water and sinks .... 58

WATERCLOSETS:-

11	houses	of	four	tenants	....	....	1	W.C.
15	"	"	three	"	....	....	1	W.C.
23	"	"	two	"	....	....	1	W.C.

(3) Huntly.

GENERAL:- During the year 1934 the Council, with commendable foresight, purchased the ground known as the "Battlehill, Meadow Plantation and Hill of Haugh" with a total area of 85.95 acres, to be used as pleasure grounds or places of Public Resort or Recreation, while in addition  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres known as the Market Muir and Torry Acres are set aside for Recreation and Playing Fields. Huntly is indeed fortunate in having such health-giving areas where fresh air and healthy exercise may be freely enjoyed.

RAINFALL:- The total rainfall during 1934 was 36.33 inches compared with 29.87 inches during 1933, the wettest month being April when 5.28 inches were recorded.

Table Showing Details of Rainfall.

January	.....	1.57	ins.
February	.....	1.37	"
March	.....	2.10	"
April	.....	5.28	"
May	.....	2.46	"
June	.....	1.64	"
July	.....	4.81	"
August	.....	5.12	"
September	.....	1.34	"
October	.....	3.77	"
November	.....	3.21	"
December	.....	3.66	"
		<u>36.33</u>	<u>"</u>



WATER SUPPLY:- A circular, dated 20th January, 1934, was received from the Department of Health on the subject of Water Supplies (with particular reference to the exceptionally low rainfall during 1933) impressing upon Local Authorities the importance of considering what measures should be taken to avert any possible shortage during the summer and autumn months.

The Council gave immediate and careful consideration to this important subject and statistics were submitted of the flow of water into the reservoirs, the readings showing that in June 1932 there was a flow of 78 gallons per head of the population as compared with  $50\frac{3}{4}$  gallons at the same period during 1933. It was noted that the average consumpt per head of the population is approximately 40 gallons per head, and that the maximum rate of consumpt during any one hour was 63 gallons per head of the population.

On 1st March we were favoured with a visit from Mr. Ross Young, Engineer Inspector of the Department of Health, and the Council conferred with him regarding the Burgh Water Supply. He recommended the Council not to lay down a concrete reservoir of say 750,000-gallon capacity; but to construct a large impounding reservoir on the hill with a thirty-day capacity. Careful consideration was given to this proposal, and Messrs. J. & A. Leslie & Reid, Civil Engineers, Edinburgh, were appointed Engineers to make a survey and submit a report.

The Engineers dealt with the gaugings of the flow of water into the reservoir taken at regular intervals over a period of three years. They reported:- "The minimum flow from the springs fell below 135,000 gallons per day; but over the whole year the average yield from the springs exceeds 200,000 gallons per day. 1933 was unusually dry, and there were about 170 days in which the average yield was not more than 150,000 gallons per day or about 50,000 gallons per day short of the requirements on the 200,000 gallon per day basis."

In order to supplement the shortage during the dry weather the Engineers suggested the storing of the surplus spring water (which is of excellent quality) during the wet weather period. In order to make up the deficiency of 50,000 gallons for 170 days from stored water it would be necessary to construct a reservoir with a capacity of not less than eight and a half million gallons.

Two possible reservoir sites were surveyed to hold not less than ten million gallons, and after investigations and sinking of trial pits a site near the existing tanks at Craighead was decided upon. The top water level of the new reservoir will be about 42 feet higher than that of the existing tanks, and a new 6" pipe will have to be laid from one of the old collecting tanks above the farm of Wellheads to carry the water to the reservoir.

It is with considerable satisfaction that I have to record such satisfactory progress towards putting the water supply of the Burgh on a sound foundation.

During 1934 gaugings of the flow of water into the Craighead reservoirs were continued, and these showed an average daily flow of water for the year of 55 gallons per head of the population. The lowest readings were taken on July 18th and October 10th - 171,864 gallons per day, equal to  $42\frac{3}{4}$  gallons per head of the population.

The main distributing pipes in the Burgh as well as consumers' service pipes and fittings were inspected for the detection of waste and/





and 110 defects were discovered resulting in 94 written notices being served. Four hundred lineal yards of 4" bitumen lined steel pipes were laid during the year to give the necessary supply of water to the new Housing Scheme at Castle Park site.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM - EFFICIENCY:- The sewers received periodical inspection and flushing was carried out when necessary. The following extensions to the drainage system of the Burgh were made during the year.

At Castle Park Housing Scheme:-

148 lineal yards of 10" Fireclay pipe sewer.  
130 " " " 9" " " "  
while 95 " " " 9" " " " were laid down on  
Deveron Road.

A number of improvements have been made in existing house drains, and all new drains were carefully supervised and smoke-tested before covering.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING - METHODS AND EFFICIENCY - DISPOSAL OF REFUSE:-

Two thousand, one hundred and seventy-eight tons of house and municipal refuse were disposed of during the year ended 15th May 1934, of which 1,273 tons were collected from houses (about the same as last year). The refuse dumps are controlled, the refuse being deposited in shallow layers, a method which has done much to remove the objections to the old time dumps.

Year after year in presenting this Report I have called attention to the objectionable non-covered receptacles used by many householders for the storage of refuse, pending collection. If it had been an expensive improvement I was pleading for failure to provide covers would be understandable; but it is not, then why will householders who use uncovered receptacles, which allow their lighter contents to be blown all over the place, not help themselves from being annoyed by others' litter, and others by their litter, by putting on an efficient dust-bin cover. To such citizens may I appeal once again - a little thoughtlessness is possibly the cause.

I would urge on householders generally the advantage of destroying all they possibly can in the kitchen or boiler fires, especially waste paper, which gives so much trouble to the public generally. The contents of the dust-bin should be kept dry, and no liquid matter deposited, also as far as possible all organic matter should be burned; the desire is for our better health and that of our neighbours.

Waste paper is collected weekly as well as during the daily collection, and burned at the refuse depots. Every care is taken to reduce to a minimum the odour of burning paper, and no complaints have been received this past year.

Street cleaning is a most important part of sanitary work, and the sustained improvement of our street surfaces has made a very marked contribution to external sanitation. We do not claim that this cleansing service is all that it might be, yet it is reasonably satisfactory. The total cost of this service amounts to 4/7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per head of the population as compared with 4/7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. for the year 1933.

NUISANCES/





NUISANCES:- A large number of complaints was received regarding nuisances and alleged nuisances, and a great deal of time was taken up with investigating these. Those of a trivial nature were more numerous than previously. Legitimate complaints are always welcomed - anything harmful to the health of the individual or such like; these will be immediately investigated and corrected; but many complaints lodged occupy time which could be more profitably used.

HOUSING - PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS:-

(a) Sufficiency of Working-class Houses. - There is still a shortage of good working-class houses within the Burgh, only two having been built to let by private enterprise during the year. This does little to meet the pressing need for new houses and more housing accommodation within the means of the lower paid wage-earner.

(b) Habitability of Existing Houses - Action taken to deal with defective or uninhabitable houses - There are many defective houses which cannot be called entirely unfit for human habitation. They certainly require drastic alterations and repairs - the introduction of water supply and modern sanitary conveniences, improved lighting and ventilating of rooms, repairs to floors and walls; while damp walls and unventilated paved floors should be modernised to meet modern standards and conditions. The Council are dealing with the unfit and defective houses as speedily as circumstances will permit.

(c) Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930 - Slum Clearance goes on in spite of the many difficulties - the uncertainty of employment and the difficulty of meeting any additional expenditure in spite of the very reasonable rents demanded by the Local Authority. For although these are made as reasonable as possible, transference to and their existence in new surroundings involve a certain amount of additional expenditure. New houses are being built on new sites, some have been built on the old sites, and the reconstruction of old houses in certain cases has been carried out by the proprietors, resulting in great improvements in the standard of living and comfort of the inhabitants.

The Council have made satisfactory progress with the provision of accommodation for persons displaced from condemned houses. In order to proceed with the Council's five year plan, 4 acres of ground were taken over at Castle Park, and a Lay-Out Plan prepared showing 16 four-apartment houses and 48 three-apartment houses, while contracts were accepted for the erection of 12 of the four-apartment houses and 36 of the three-apartment type. At the end of the year 3 blocks of four-apartment houses were completed in Gordon Street and 12 of the three-apartment houses were completed and occupied at Castle Park site. In addition to the erection of houses, streets and pavements have been formed, and new sewers, water and gas services laid.

(d) Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.- No application for assistance was received under this Act during the year; but 3 houses (1933 applications) were completed in Princes Street. It is unfortunate that greater advantage is not taken of this Scheme; this is possibly accounted for in several cases by the lack of alternative accommodation for the tenants.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND) 1928.

1. Number of dwelling houses inspected ..... 130.



- |    |  |      |      |      |    |
|----|--|------|------|------|----|
| 2. | Number of dwelling houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | .... | .... | .... | 96 |
|----|--|------|------|------|----|

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

- |     |   |      |      |    |
|-----|---|------|------|----|
| 10. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (10)  | .... | .... | 41 |
| 11. | Number of dwellinghouses referred to in 10:-  |      |      |    |
|     | (a) Number which have been rendered fit for habitation  | .... | .... | 4  |
|     | (b) In respect of which undertakings have been given that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit |      |      | 33 |
|     | (c) In respect of which demolition orders have been made under Section 16 (3)   | .... | .... | 7  |
|     | (d) In respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4)  | .... | .... | 1  |

GENERAL INFORMATION or OBSERVATIONS as to the character of defects usually found to exist, as to the extent to which overcrowding was found to prevail and the steps taken to remedy it, or as to the work of inspection generally:-

There are quite a number of old houses within the Burgh having minor defects; but the number stated in this return only refers to those considered unfit for habitation owing to major defects found to exist in them.

OTHER MATTERS CALLING FOR COMMENT:-

(a) Public Conveniences - Previous reports have dealt with the shortage of facilities of this nature in the Burgh, which is a serious inconvenience to the resident population as well as to the visitors to the town. Nevertheless distinct progress has been made during the year by that provided at the Market Muir, and the Council have purchased an old building site on Castle Street for this purpose, where, at the time of writing, work is proceeding.

(b) Tents and Vans - Reference was made in last year's Report to the number of tent and van dwellers remaining on the Market Muir for indefinite periods. Action has been taken by the Council, and notices have been erected intimating that no Camping is allowed on the ground without permission. These Notices have had the desired effect.

CONVENIENCES USED IN COMMON:-

- |     |                           |   |
|-----|---------------------------|---|
| (1) | (a) Dry closets - 2.      | One serving 1 tenant and 1 serving two tenants. |
|     | (b) Privy Middens - None. |   |
|     | (c) Ashpits - None.       |   |

(2)/





(2)	(a)	Water closets used in common by two tenants ...	110
	(b)	" " " " " " three " ...	72
	(c)	" " " " " " four " ...	49
	(d)	" " " " " " five or more tenants ...	16
(3)	(a)	Houses without indoor water supply and sink ...	158

The majority of these 158 houses which have no inside water supply are old, and in most cases have served their period of usefulness, and there can be little hope of their now being fitted with these conveniences. The majority of these houses will be dealt with by the Council under their programme of slum clearance.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES:- The three private slaughter houses have been in constant use during the year. The total number of animals slaughtered during the year ended 31st December, 1934, was as follows:-

Cattle	.....	2,860
Sheep	.....	8,740
Pigs	.....	<u>118</u>
Total	.....	<u><u>11,718</u></u>

as compared with 10,622 during 1933. The situation of certain of these premises is not all that could be desired, and while a reasonable state of cleanliness has been maintained, it is impossible to carry on this business without its being a nuisance to those dwellinghouses in close proximity, e.g., the situation of one of the slaughter houses causes the removal of manure, offal, hides etc. to be made across the pavement. Several written and verbal complaints have been lodged by householders regarding offensive smells, etc., particularly during the summer months, and steps will require to be taken in the near future to remedy this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

SCHOOLS, WORKSHOPS, FACTORIES, COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND BURIAL GROUNDS:- Periodical inspections were made from time to time, and the Schools, Workshops etc. in the Burgh were found in a satisfactory condition. It was not found necessary to issue any Notices under the Public Health Acts. The conditions under which work is carried out are generally of a satisfactory nature.

There are no Common Lodging-houses within the Burgh; but one house is registered under "Houses Let in Lodgings", and this has been kept in a reasonably clean condition.

There are no Burial Grounds within the Burgh.

BURGH POLICE ACT PROCEEDINGS:- Eight warrants were granted by the Dean of Guild Court for the erection and alteration of properties. Nine certificates were granted under Section 40 of the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1903, for alterations and erections of a minor nature. One Notice was served under Section 191 of the 1892 Police Act.





(4) Inverurie.

This report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions issued by the Department of Health for Scotland, dated 21st December, 1934.

In reporting generally on the Sanitary Conditions of the Burgh, it has to be noted that, as each year draws to a close, some improvements have been carried out.

Many of the older houses were condemned during the year, while others were demolished and the sites cleared. In some parts of the town new sites have been developed and more modern and up-to-date houses erected. Several old properties were reconstructed and brought up to modern standard requirements by the introduction of water supplies, sinks, and water closets.

In connection with these schemes, there are the extensions to, and the enlarging of the water mains and sewers, and, it is hoped that, during the next few years, these improvements will continue.

There is no doubt but that the recent Housing Acts have given Local Authorities a certain amount of encouragement to erect houses for those living in condemned houses; but there is still the need of houses to meet the demands of a growing population.

The public generally are realising the advantages gained, not only in health, but also in cleanliness, by the introduction of more modern Sanitary appliances with the result that a greater demand is placed upon Local Authorities by tenants who are desirous of improving their present Sanitary Conditions.

During the year the Local Authority commenced operations on a Scheme of forty houses of the three-apartment flatted type. Three new houses were erected and forty-one houses were either reconstructed or improved by private owners.

With these improvements in the housing conditions year after year, one would think that sufficient houses have now been erected, especially by Local Authorities, but, from the number of applications received, it is quite evident that the demands for new houses have not yet been met.

No doubt the 1930 Housing Act will help to obliterate to a large extent the slum dwellings or the individual houses which are unfit for human habitation but the reduction of Grant from nine to three pounds under the 1924 Housing Act has hindered to a great extent not only in Inverurie but throughout the whole country the erection of houses for young persons who are desirous of getting married and for those living in sublet houses.

WATER SUPPLY:- The water supply to the Burgh of Inverurie is derived from three different sources, namely:- Mill of Eastertown, Keithhall, and Port Elphinstone.

The water is obtained from natural springs situated in these areas and is of excellent quality, clear and transparent, and very suitable for all trade and domestic purposes.

In order to ascertain the quantity of water being supplied to the Burgh, readings are taken at varying intervals during each month, and/



and the average of these for the whole year works out as follows:-

Mill of Easterton	...	...	260	Gallons	per	minute.
Keithhall	...	...	69	"	"	"
Port Elphinstone	...	...	12	"	"	"
Total			341	"	"	"

The foregoing rate of supply per minute is equivalent to 20,460 gallons per hour, or 491,040 gallons per day of 24 hours.

In dividing this total by the average population of say, 4,526 we have a daily supply at the rate of about 108 gallons per head per day.

The supply during the whole year was fairly constant and no shortage was experienced as occurred during the year 1933.

It will be understood that by the erection of new houses and by the additional sanitary improvements in existing houses a greater demand is being made yearly on our water supply.

To meet with the increased demands and any shortage in the near future the Local Authority have carried out a large augmentation Scheme by taking over an extensive water gathering area at North Bethelnie Farm and the developing of the springs thereon. This Scheme cost approximately £1,000 and entailed the laying of about 2,700 yards of piping together with a large number of manholes and the fixing of various stop cocks and overflow control valves. The water from this Scheme is estimated to yield a minimum rate of supply of about 50 gallons per minute during the summer months.

At varying intervals during the year each source of supply is visited and inspected when all operations and apparatus are carefully examined to insure their working in a satisfactory manner. The settling tanks and reservoirs are thoroughly scoured out and cleaned and the filter beds renewed.

The water mains throughout the Burgh are scoured practically every month and oftener if found necessary. This insures the public securing as pure a water supply as it is possible to obtain.

During the year about 316 yards of new cast iron mains were laid at Blackhall Road and Middlemuir Road in connection with our Housing Scheme. This work cost approximately £145.

SEWERS AND DRAINS:- All the main sewers and private drains are being kept in a very satisfactory condition.

The overflow from Brandsbutt Reservoir connects up with the main sewer at the top of North Street and the water therefrom tends to keep the sewer at this part of the Town in a very clean condition.

During the year new drains were laid in connection with the following:- 11 houses, North Street; 8 houses, Market Place; 2 houses, High Street and at Victoria Street in connection with the Victoria Cinema.

In addition to this an extension was made to the existing sewer at Middlemuir Road which entailed the laying of about 152 yards of piping/





piping and the building of two manholes.

SCAVENGING:- The scavenging of the Burgh is still being carried out in a very satisfactory manner. In order that every street may receive the attention of the Scavenger the Burgh is divided into three sections, namely:-

No. 1 Section:- Victoria Street, North Street, Constitution Street, Harlaw Road and other side streets and lanes leading off.

No. 2 Section:- West High Street, Market Place (East and West side) High Street, St. James's Place and all side streets and lanes leading off.

No. 3 Section:- Port Elphinstone.

Each of the foregoing Sections is swept daily, with the exception of Port Elphinstone which is cleansed every Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

This is now the fifth year since the Council have adopted the alternate system of Removal and everything has worked out in an economical and efficient manner.

The method of removal is as follows:-

Monday, Wednesday and Friday forenoon:-

Keithhall Road, High Street, Market Place, (East and West side) Souterford Road, West High Street, Westfield Gardens, Middlemuir Road, Blackhall Road and Victoria Street with all side streets and lanes leading therefrom.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon:-

St. James's Place, Upperboat Road, Manse Road and Port-Elphinstone.

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday forenoon:-

North Street, Saphock Place, Watt Crescent, Gallowfold Lane, Mortimer's Lane, Pirie's Lane, Constitution Street, Harlaw Road, Garioch Road, King Street, Queen Street and Princes Street with all other lanes and courts included.

All refuse from shops and other business premises is removed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

The only ashpits now used within the Burgh are those in connection with schools and houses in the outlying district, together with those used by the scavengers.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE BURGH:- List of houses having the use of and without sinks, water supply and water closets.

Distribution/





Distribution of Tenants, and the number of Blocks where there is:-	Use of Water Closets Inside.	Use of Water Supply.	Use of Wash-house.	Use of Bath-room.	Houses without sinks or water inside.
Blocks containing:-					
One house 631	631	617	299	206	9
Two houses 79	79	53	-	-	22
Three " 48	48	48	33	-	48
Four " 49	49	51	51	-	179
Five " 9	9	9	9	-	26
Six or more houses. 11	11	11	11	-	81
Total 827	827	789	403	206	365

During the year several proprietors were called upon to instal water closets, sinks, and water supply in the properties belonging to them. Meantime several of those appliances have been fitted up.

During the year 13 new water closets were installed, 11 sinks, 3 combination sink and tub, 3 baths and 3 wash-hand basins.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- During the year the following cases of infectious disease and tuberculosis were notified:- Scarlet Fever 39: Pneumonia 10: Erysipelas 4: Puerperal Fever 2: Puerperal Pyrexia 1: Diphtheria 1: Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2: Non-pulmonary 1.

Inspections were made in nearly every case and where necessary disinfection was carried out.

NUISANCES:- Systematic inspection is made throughout the year of the whole Burgh in order to ascertain what nuisances exist and require the attention of the parties responsible. Altogether 525 inspections were made, 21 complaints were received and 80 nuisances were dealt with and remedied.

The nuisances consisted chiefly of defective sanitary fittings, drains, water pipes and general disrepair in houses.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE:- The public Slaughterhouse which is owned by the Town Council is situated in premises off North Street, and consists of 8 cattle byres, 8 slaughtering booths and four cattle and sheep pens.

The various slaughtering booths are let to local cattle dealers and butchers yearly, who are held responsible for the keeping of same in a clean and satisfactory condition. The walls and floors are washed down daily after slaughtering is over.

The number of animals killed at the slaughterhouse during the year ended 31st December, 1934, was as follows:-

Oxen	Bulls	Heifers	Cows	Sheep	Calves	Pigs	Total
4,809	201	6,455	2,060	28,804	-	172	42,501

For the past three years there has apparently been a slight reduction in the number of animals killed, especially sheep. The figures/



figures are as follows: In the year 1932, 48,933 animals were killed, as against 46,567 in 1933.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:- There are four Offensive Trades carried on within the Burgh, namely:- Two Hide and Tallow Companies and two Gut and Pudding Manufacturers. The Hide and Tallow Companies' works are visited practically every other day while the Gut premises are visited monthly.

All those premises are kept in a very clean condition being washed down daily and the rubbish removed.

SCHOOLS:- There are three schools in Inverurie and one at Port-Elphinstone. These four schools are kept in a very good state of repair. The Schools are kept clean and tidy and opportunity is taken during the week-ends or holidays for disinfecting the class-rooms, etc.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:- There are twenty factories on the register including laundries, and twenty-three workshops. Altogether 97 inspections were made of these premises during the year and on two occasions it was found necessary to call upon the owners to clean their premises.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE:- There are no houses in the Burgh set aside as Common Lodging Houses.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS:- The following were on the register for the year ended 31st. December, 1934.

COW-KEEPERS - There are eight persons who keep one or two cows principally for their own use, and any milk left over is generally sold to friends or neighbours.

RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK:- There are eight persons who retail milk to customers throughout the Burgh.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PURVEYORS - There are four persons on the register, mostly farmers, who sell their milk wholesale to dairies in Aberdeen and retail the balance to customers within the Burgh.

Inspections are made during the year of all premises and vehicles but these are generally kept in a very satisfactory condition.

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(5) KINTORE.

Information regarding the Sanitary Conditions of Kintore Burgh is contained in the Report submitted by the Divisional Sanitary Inspector for the Central Division of the County.



(6) Oldmeldrum.

The outstanding features in the Sanitary and Housing Conditions of Oldmeldrum are given by the Divisional Sanitary Inspector in his Report for the Central Division.

(7) Rosehearty.

WATER:- The water supply to the town has been well maintained and no scarcity of water was experienced during the year. The filters are regularly cleaned and kept in good order. Eight connections were made to the water mains, eleven sinks provided, eight baths fitted up, and one outside tap erected.

There are 143 houses with sinks inside, 114 outside taps, and one pillar well.

DRAINAGE:- No chokages occurred in the drainage system. The outfall sewers to the sea are regularly cleaned and kept free from sand. The house drains of 12 properties were connected to the sewer. Seven smoke tests were applied to drains.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION:-

Table showing Sanitary Accommodation.

One inside sink to each tenant		143
One outside tap to each tenant	102	
" " " " two tenants	8	
" " " " four "	1	
" " " " five "	3	114
Outside Pillar Well used by one tenant		1
One water closet to each tenant		173
" " " " two tenants		7
One pail privy to each tenant	89	
" " " " two tenants	4	
" " " " four "	3	
" " " " five "	2	98
Privy Middens		None
Ashpits		None

SCAVENGING:- All house refuse is stored in suitable ashbins and a three-day per week collection of the refuse is undertaken. The sea tip is kept in good order and no complaints were received.

HOUSING:- Eight three-apartment houses were erected under the 1930 Housing Act. No houses were erected by private enterprise. There are 25 houses overcrowded in the Burgh, but, as a new Bill is presently before Parliament, no action is being taken in the meantime.

DAIRIES:- The seven registered dairies are well conducted. Two intimations were served for limewashing. Until dairy bye-laws are passed, little can be done to improve the existing state of the premises.

NUISANCES/







NUISANCES:- Very few nuisances were reported, and these were chiefly choked drains. In all cases, verbal intimations had the desired effect of an early abatement.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- Forty-one cases of infectious diseases were reported during the year:- scarlet fever 9 cases; diphtheria 19 cases; erysipelas 2 cases; pneumonia 10 cases; puerperal fever 1 case. Twenty-nine visits of enquiry were made. Eighteen houses and twenty-one sets of bedding were disinfected.

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(8) Turriff.

GENERAL:- There are no outstanding circumstances existing within the burgh which can be reported as being injurious to health other than that which is referred to under Housing.

WATER SUPPLY:- There are two sources of supply to the burgh. The first of these is from Barnyards, an estate situated 3 miles from the town and belonging to the Council. This is the main source of supply and is obtained by means of perforated fireclay pipes laid at a depth of from 12 to 16 feet from the surface. These are brought to a small collecting chamber and thence to the clear water tank which has a capacity of 120,000 gallons and is situated at 375 feet above O.D. The subsoil of the whole of the collecting area is of fine gravel and acts as a natural filter to the water which is of very good quality.

The quantity available from this source varies considerably according to the rainfall, the maximum daily flow during the year being 420,000 gallons per 24 hours and the minimum 56,000 gallons.

The estimated consumption of the burgh is 120,000 gallons per 24 hours, and during the period of minimum flow from this source an auxiliary supply is pumped to a storage tank situated above the town at 270 feet above O.D. This supply is collected similarly by means of perforated fireclay pipes laid in a gravel subsoil on part of the estate of Hatton which the Town Council have leased. The quality of this water is also very good and the quantity available is estimated at 460,000 gallons per 24 hours.

During the year, the Council resolved to have this pumping plant duplicated so that in the event of a mechanical breakdown either in the pump or engine no inconvenience would be suffered. This work is now practically completed and the new plant which consists of a 34 H.P. Ruston Hornsby horizontal Diesel engine and Pulsometer 3 cell turbine pump discharging 200 gallons per minute will be used in the coming summer.

The distributing mains throughout the town are in practically every case of ample size and sufficient pressures are maintained for all domestic needs. Scouring is carried out regularly and no complaints of any consequence have been received.

DRAINAGE/



DRAINAGE SYSTEM, SEWAGE PURIFICATION AND DISPOSAL:- The drainage system of the town is well maintained. The sewers are in good working order and of sufficient size for all needs. During thunderstorms, slight flooding is occasionally experienced in the centre of the town but this is due more to the section of the road-way than to the sewers.

The method of sewage purification is by sedimentation tanks, and filter beds. These are kept in good working order and a good effluent is obtained. This is discharged into what is known as the Back Burn, thence to the Turriff Burn and gives no cause for complaint. The sedimentation tanks are cleaned out regularly and the sludge used for manuring purposes on the Haugh lands belonging to the Council.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING:- The cleansing of the burgh continues to be carried out by contract. Household refuse is collected thrice weekly and is disposed of by controlled tipping at a dump at Brodies' braes.

Complaints have been received from householders in Victoria Terrace regarding the smoke and smell from the burning of papers and rubbish when the wind is in certain directions. The complaints are well founded and investigations are proceeding with a view to providing a blast furnace or some other means of disposing of this refuse.

The dust waggons are old and obsolete and on a windy day it is impossible for the refuse to be collected without a considerable amount of dust being blown about. The Council will shortly require to consider the provision of at least two new waggons and these should be of the low leading, totally enclosed type.

NUISANCES:- It has not been found necessary to serve any notices under Section 19 of the Public Health Act during the year. In most cases the cause of nuisance is choked drains and upon verbal notice being given to the proprietors these are cleared and remedied forthwith.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE:- The slaughterhouse is the property of the Town Council and consists of 5 slaughtering booths, with necessary byre accommodation, blood tanks, accommodation for offal and sanitary conveniences.

The offal is removed regularly by arrangement with the local knackery and the blood is removed and buried as required.

All meat is inspected by Mr. W. A. R. Ogilvie, M.R.C.V.S., and the following table shows the number of animals killed during the year with the number of seizures and quantity destroyed.

Cattle/



	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	
January	134	38	13	
February	100	30	17	
March	95	36	9	
April	115	44	3	
May	95	27	2	
June	93	33	4	
July	120	40	1	
August	100	31	2	
September	73	26	1	
October	96	63	12	
November	92	74	13	
December	88	28	12	
Total	1,201	470	89	
Total seizures	7	1	-	Weight 3,979 lbs.
Partial seizures	9	-	-	" 2,264 "
Total	16	1	-	" 6,243 "

With one exception, all the carcasses were affected with tuberculosis and in every case were seized with the consent of the owners, and disposed of to the local knackery.

In addition to the above, the following foods were seized and destroyed with the consent of the owners as being unfit for human consumption.

74 lbs. various tinned meats.  
61 lbs. Cooked Gammon.  
56 tins various tinned fruits.  
4 tins Salmon.  
3 tins Soup.

In all cases the tins were blown.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE:- There is one common lodging house in the burgh licensed by the Local Authority. Accommodation is provided for 12 lodgers and during the year 996 beds were supplied. The premises are inspected regularly and always found to be in a cleanly and orderly condition. The sanitary arrangements are adequate.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:- During the year 86 cases of infectious disease were notified at this office - 41 scarlet fever, 44 diphtheria, and 1 pneumonia.

Removal of cases, disinfection, etc., is carried out by the hospital staff and 79 of the above cases were removed to Huntly Hospital and 7 were treated at home.

SCHOOLS:- The schools are modern and have ample accommodation for the needs of the district. The sanitary arrangements are in good order and the buildings generally in good repair, with the classrooms well lighted and ventilated.

WORKSHOPS:- There are 18 factories and 34 workshops within the burgh, and, during the year, 73 inspections were made. In only 1 instance/







instance was a notice required for want of cleanliness and this was given verbally and attended to immediately.

All the premises are equipped with sanitary conveniences and are kept in a satisfactory manner.

There are no underground bakehouses or workshops in the burgh and no cases of homeworkers falling under the Regulations.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- There are two burial grounds within the burgh, viz., the Old Churchyard and St. Congan's Episcopal Churchyard. Both of these are kept in good order although the Old Churchyard is now almost closed.

The principal cemetery lies outwith the burgh boundary.

BURGH POLICE ACT:- It has not been found necessary to take any action under the above Act during the year.

HOUSING:- The housing conditions in the burgh cannot be described as good. As will be understood, the lower rented houses are old and generally of the cottage type with low ceilings, poorly lighted and in some cases in narrow lanes and although every house has now been provided with water supply and sink inside, they fall far short of modern housing standards.

At the close of the year a comprehensive survey was begun in order that the programme of the Local Authority for the period 1933-1938 may be revised and it is expected this will be to hand in the near future and the Council urged to proceed as quickly as possible with the erection of more houses to rehouse the displaced tenants.

Other 10 three-apartment houses have been completed during the year under the 1930 Act and a scheme of 8 four-apartment houses commenced at Hillcrest West. In addition, 2 five-apartment houses are in course of erection at Gladstone Terrace, these being built without State Assistance.

HOUSING (Inspection of Districts) REGULATIONS, 1928.

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1. Number of dwellinghouses inspected ... ..	31
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2. Number of dwellinghouses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	16
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HOUSING (Scotland) ACT, 1925.

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3. Number of cases where intimations were given under Section 20 (1) as to insufficient water closet accommodation ... ..	Nil
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4. Number of houses of (a) one apartment, and (b) two apartments, for the erection of which the consent of the Local Authority has been given in terms of Section 111. ... ..	Nil
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HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING &c., (Scotland) ACT, 1919.

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- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 5. | Number of cases where notices were served under Section 40 (1) to provide dwellinghouses with water supply. ... .. Nil |
|----|--|
- 

HOUSING (Scotland) ACT, 1930.

- 
- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 6. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served under Section 14 (1) ... .. Nil |
|----|--|
- 
- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 7. | Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation following on notices under Section 14 (1)... Nil |
|----|---|
- 
- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 8. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which work has been done by the Local Authority under Section 15 (1) ... .. Nil |
|----|--|
- 
- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 9. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which in terms of Section 17 a demolition order or closing order under Section 16 (3) has been substituted for a notice under Section 14 (1) ... .. Nil |
|----|--|
- 
- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 10. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (1) .. ... 3 |
|-----|--|
- 
- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 11. | Number of dwellinghouses referred to in 10:-   |
| (a) | which have been rendered fit for human habitation ... .. Nil   |
| (b) | in respect of which undertaking has been given that the houses will not be used for human habitation until rendered so fit ... 3 |
| (c) | in respect of which demolition orders have been made under Section 16 (3) ... .. Nil   |
| (d) | in respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4) ... .. Nil  |
- 
- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 12. | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders have, in terms of Section 16 (3) been determined by the Local Authority following upon the houses having been rendered fit for human habitation ... .. Nil |
|-----|--|
- 
- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 13. | Number of houses in respect of which advances have been made in terms of Section 34 towards the cost of repairs, and amount so advanced .. ... Nil |
|-----|--|
- 

HOUSES/



HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

under the various Housing Acts.

	<u>2 apt.</u>	<u>3 apt.</u>	<u>4 apt.</u>
1919 Act.			
Manse Terrace	-	-	8
1923 Act.			
Wallace Crescent	-	4	-
1924 Act.			
Wallace Crescent	-	-	-
Castle Street and Hillcrest	-	27	-
Woodlands	-	18	16
Hillcrest West	-	16	6
Castle Street	4	-	-
1930 Act.			
Hillcrest West	-	-	20
Deveron Street	-	2	-
Chapel Street	-	8	-
Total	4	75	50

(9) Peterhead.

WATER SUPPLY:- The water supply to the burgh has been abundant during the year and sufficient for all purposes, with the exception of providing a constant supply to the higher parts of the town, especially Balmoor Terrace. The intermittent supply in this quarter is not due to any shortage in the supply, but to the fact that there is only a matter of a few feet of difference in level between the water level at the reservoir and the highest part of the district in question. The ever increasing demand from the main which supplies this part of the burgh is owing to the large number of modern houses which are being erected at Ugie Park. I am of opinion that when the housing scheme is completed the upper part of Balmoor Terrace will not only have an intermittent supply at certain periods of the year as formerly, but will then be deprived of a supply throughout the whole year during the day. It will then only be possible to supply the district from about 6 p.m. till 6 a.m. daily. The only alternatives are for the proprietors to instal storage cisterns inside the houses or for the Town Council to provide a separate pipe from the reservoir to the Balmoor Terrace district. The latter method would provide a constant supply at all times of the day throughout the year.

The reservoirs reached their lowest point in the month of October when they contained 12,500,000 gallons.

During the year, an additional spring yielding about twenty-five gallons per minute was introduced into the supply.

An/





An additional filter has now been constructed and will be put into operation early in the year.

The quality of the water remains good and the bacteriologist has reported very favourably on all samples submitted to him.

RAINFALL:- The following is a record of the rainfall for the year:-

January	...	...	1.75 ins.
February	...	...	1.31 "
March	...	...	1.29 "
April	...	...	3.85 "
May	...	...	3.52 "
June	...	...	.94 "
July	...	...	1.76 "
August	...	...	3.53 "
September	...	...	2.70 "
October	...	...	3.63 "
November	...	...	3.02 "
December	...	...	3.27 "
Total ...			<u>30.57 "</u>

The rainfall for the year 1933 was 26.77 inches.

DRAINAGE:- With the exception of one or two very flat gradients, the drainage is in quite a satisfactory condition. The main sewers in Seagate and Greenhill have to be artificially cleansed almost yearly.

SEWAGE PURIFICATION AND DISPOSAL:- All the sewage of the burgh is discharged in its crude state from ten separate outfalls into the sea at various points along the foreshore. These outfalls discharge at or near low water mark and I am pleased to report that there has never been any question as to the efficiency of this method and there has never been cause for complaint.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:- There are only two offensive trades within the burgh viz., Fish Meal Factory and Gut and Tripe Cleaning.

I received several complaints during the summer months regarding the offensive smells which emanated from the fish meal factory. On examination I invariably found everything in the works satisfactory, but the strictest supervision is necessary on the part of the manufacturers to see that every part of their plant is operating efficiently.

The Gut and Tripe Cleaning store is situated within the Public Slaughterhouse premises and there has never been the slightest cause for complaint.

HOUSING:- The housing of the working classes has received and is at present receiving every consideration and on the whole very satisfactory progress has been made. This is not a matter that can be solved in the course of a year or two. At the present rate of progress, it will take at least five or six years before the greater part of the housing question has been satisfactorily dealt with. An inspection of most of the working class houses within the burgh has revealed most unsatisfactory housing conditions and as a result of such an inspection, I am of opinion that at least 350 additional houses will be required in order to accommodate tenants who will have to vacate houses/



houses which are considered unfit for human habitation or houses which are overcrowded.

One hundred and two representations were made to the Local Authority during the year under Section 16 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1930, and that 120 houses were in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation. These have all been dealt with. Demolition or Closing Orders have been passed and the families to be displaced will be provided with new houses as soon as they become available. The rate of displacements is regulated by the rate new houses can be provided, which is about one house per week.

The principal defects commonly met with in houses which have been inspected and reported on as unfit for human habitation are:-

1. Congestion.
2. Dampness.
3. Low ceilings.
4. Insufficient ventilation and lighting,  
most of the windows not being made to  
open easily.
5. No suitable facilities for drying clothes.
6. Water and sink not provided inside.
7. Defective drainage, pointing and slating.
8. Insufficient and unsuitable water closet  
and wash-house accommodation, etc.

In addition to the houses required to replace these which have been closed as unfit for human habitation, a large number will be required to accommodate families living in overcrowded conditions and where mixing of the sexes is taking place. My estimate of the housing requirements is:-

To replace houses closed as unfit for habitation	...	240
To relieve overcrowding	... ..	<u>110</u>
Total	...	<u>350</u>

No allowance has been made to meet the needs of other persons requiring houses, e.g., married persons living with relatives or in sub-lets, or in lodgings; persons desirous of getting married for whom accommodation is not likely to be available. It is anticipated that they will be accommodated in the houses which will be rendered vacant when the overcrowded conditions have been improved.

The Local Authority is quite alive to the necessity for more houses and has acquired the following sites in addition to those already built upon:-

Ives Park	...	...	32 houses
King Street and North side of Kirk Street	...	...	42 "
South side of Kirk Street	...	...	18 "
Landale Road	...	...	<u>12 "</u>
Total			<u>104 "</u>

This will by no means complete the housing programme for the next five/





five years and new sites will have to be selected in order to allow the erection of houses to go on without interruption till the required number has been provided.

The Local Authority will in the course of a few years completely solve the question of uninhabitable houses and overcrowding. Unfortunately little progress is likely to be made, under present conditions, with the improvement of properties which do not come within the category of uninhabitable, but which require extensive structural alterations and repairs, the introduction of a water supply and sinks inside, separate lavatory accommodation, etc., in order to render them in all respects more reasonably fit for occupation. No progress whatever has been made during the year in the reconditioning of properties, as the proprietors although willing are quite unable to face the heavy expenditure which would be necessary to meet the requirements of a modern house. How the difficulty is to be overcome I am not in a position to say, but one thing is certain, that the longer the delay, the greater the depreciation, and in a comparatively short time these houses will become totally unfit for human habitation.

In view of the measures which are being adopted to improve the housing conditions within the burgh, I consider it would be unreasonable to make any request to introduce water and sinks inside each dwelling and only in 11 separate dwellinghouses was this done. I think it would be desirable to ascertain in the first instance how many houses are likely to be closed as a result of the inspection and afterwards decide to enforce improvements and the introduction of a water supply and sink into the houses which are considered to be otherwise in a habitable condition and not likely to be the subject of action for demolition or closure.

There are now 156 houses erected and occupied at Ugie Park under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1930, viz., 116 houses of three apartments and 40 houses of four apartments. Twelve additional three apartment houses are presently in course of erection on the site. Fifteen three-apartment and 3 two-apartment houses are in course of erection at Jamaica Street and Lodge Walk and 16 three-apartment houses and 8 four-apartment houses are in course of erection at Battery Park, a total of:-

48	-	four apartments.
159	-	three apartments.
3	-	two apartments.
<hr/>		
210		
<hr/>		

The tenants occupying the 156 houses are all from houses which have been condemned in various parts of the Burgh or from overcrowded houses within the Improvement Area.

There is a total of 363 persons in the 40 four-apartment houses or an average of nine persons per house. The 116 three-apartment houses accommodate 716 persons or an average of six persons per house. The scheme so far as it has been completed accommodates 1,079 or an average of nearly seven persons per house.

During the year, 50 new houses were occupied at Ugie Park, 29 by families from condemned houses in various parts of the burgh and 21 by families from overcrowded houses within the Improvement Area.

The Local Authority has formed an Improvement Area within the burgh/





burgh under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1930, and prepared bye-laws to deal with:-

- (a) Preventing and abating overcrowding.
- (b) Securing the improvement of housing conditions and
- (c) Securing the maintenance of a proper standard of housing conditions and for other purposes in the Improvement Area.

These bye-laws have been very useful in dealing with overcrowding and 21 separate families have been provided with improved accommodation during the year.

#### HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926.

Six applications for assistance in aid of reconstruction and improvement of houses under the above Act were granted during the year.

SCHOOLS:- The burgh is provided with six large and commodious schools, all of which are in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:- There are presently 113 workshops on the register made up as follows:-

Fishcuring	...	...	...	41
Baking	...	...	...	15
Tailoring	...	...	...	12
Dressmaking and Millinery	...	...	...	6
Others	...	...	...	39

On the whole, these factories and workshops are well kept.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES:- There are no common lodging houses within the burgh.

BURIAL GROUNDS:- The two burial grounds within the burgh are well kept in every respect.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE:- The Public Slaughterhouse, the only one within the burgh, is well equipped, of quite modern construction, and up-to-date in every way.

During the year, 1,313 cattle, 886 sheep, 191 pigs and 3 calves were slaughtered as compared with 1,422 cattle, 952 sheep and 181 pigs for the year 1933.

Forty-two carcasses were affected with tuberculosis, viz., 37 whole and 5 part, weighing 5 tons 17 cwt. 3 qrs., all of which were condemned as unfit for human food and sent to W. Sim and Co., Aberdeen.

SCAVENGING:- All domestic refuse in town is collected four times weekly, (Tuesday and Thursday being omitted) and deposited into the sea at Keith Inch. This was until recently quite a satisfactory method of disposal, but since fishcurers in town had difficulty in finding a market for their fish offal it also had to be tipped at the same point, with the result that a nuisance arises during hot weather. The Town Council is presently considering the question of extending the roadway about 100 feet seawards, so that all refuse can be tipped into deep water at all states of the tide.

SANITARY/



SANITARY CONVENIENCES:- There are 33 dry closets each serving one tenant, all in connection with fishcuring premises. This is the same number as the previous year. There are no privy middens or ashpits within the burgh.

I estimate the number of water closets serving:-

<u>2 tenants</u>	<u>3 tenants</u>	<u>4 tenants</u>	<u>5 or more tenants</u>
275	220	140	90

I estimate the number of houses without a water supply and sink inside to be 1,200, but this number will be reduced considerably in the course of a year or two. With one or two exceptions all the houses condemned or to be condemned have no water inside.

BURGH POLICE ACT:- The following Notices were served under the Burgh Police Act:-

To cleanse and wash water closets used in common	7
" " " " stairs and passages used in common ... ..	4
To whitewash stairs and passages used in common ... ..	25
Repair defective rhones and spouts ... ..	4

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PETERHEAD - APPENDICES.

I. HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1928.

1.	Number of dwellinghouses inspected ... ..	650
2.	Number of dwellinghouses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	120

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1925.

3.	Number of cases where intimations were given under Section 20 (1) as to insufficient water closet accommodation ... ..	Nil
4.	Number of houses of (a) one apartment, and (b) two apartments, for the erection of which the consent of the Local Authority has been given in terms of Section One hundred and eleven ... ..	Nil

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c. (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1919.

5.	Number of cases where notices were served under Section 40 (1) to provide dwellinghouses with water supply:-	
	(a) Cases where requirements complied by owners ...	11
	(b) Cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so ...	Nil
	(c) Cases still pending ... ..	Nil

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

6.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served under Section 14 (1) ... ..	117
7.	Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation following on notices under Section 14 (1) ...	Nil
8.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which work has been done by the Local Authority under Section 15 (1) ..	Nil
9.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which in terms of Section 17 a demolition order or closing order under Section 16 (3) has been substituted for a notice under Section 14 (1) ... ..	Nil
10.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (1) ... ..	117
11.	Number of dwellinghouses referred to in 10:-	
	(a) which have been rendered fit for human habitation ..	Nil
	(b) in respect of which undertaking has been given that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit ...	3
	(c)/	





(c) in respect of which demolition orders have been made under Section 16 (3) ... ..	102
(d) in respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4) .. ...	15

12. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders have, in terms of Section 16 (3), been determined by the Local Authority, following upon the houses having been rendered fit for human habitation ... .. Nil

13. Number of houses in respect of which advances have been made in terms of Section 34 towards cost of repairs and amount advanced ... .. Nil

## II. UNSOUND FOOD.

### A. MEAT -

Number of seizures, weights of meat seized and reasons for seizure -		
	BEEF.	
	Number	Weight
	42	5 tons 17 cwts. 3 qrs.
	38	96 lbs.
Tuberculosis	80	5 tons 18 cwts. 68 lbs.
Unsound condition		

### B. OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD -

Articles	Where seized	Quantities or weights	Reasons for seizure
Tinned Fruit	Various shops	85 tins	Decomposed
Condensed Milk	do.	7 tins	do.
Salmon	do.	2 tins	do.
Tomato Puree	Crosse & Blackwell Ltd., Peterhead.	450 tins	do.
Tomato Paste	do.	510 tins	do.



(10) Fraserburgh.

WATER SUPPLY:-

Fedderate Supply:- The final section of the pitching works commenced at Fedderate Reservoir in 1932 was expected to be completed during the summer and autumn of this past year, but, owing to the high level of water retained in the reservoir, the work was left over till some future date. The water could have been lowered to allow for the execution of this work, but the experience of 1933 was still fresh in memory and to run several million gallons to waste during the summer months was considered injudicious.

The south bank of the reservoir has still to be pitched with rock to protect against erosion.

The lowest level of water recorded during the year was 397.80 feet O.D. - 2.20 feet below overflow level, giving a storage capacity of 40 $\frac{1}{4}$  million gallons.

Hillhead Supply:- This supply was well maintained during the year.

General:- On no occasion was it found necessary to curtail the supply to the town, and no restrictions on the use of water were made.

Two mechanical filters were thoroughly cleaned and coated, nozzles were removed, cleaned and replaced, and new filtering medium was supplied.

The regulating reservoirs at Hillhead were periodically cleaned as also were the sand filter beds on this system.

DRAINAGE:- The main drainage of the Burgh is in a satisfactory condition. Nine inch, 7 inch and 6 inch sewers were extended in the College Bounds Housing Area to allow for Housing development there.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING:- A daily collection of Household Refuse is still carried out over the Burgh. All refuse is carted to a toom 1 mile from the town and disposed of by "controlled tipping". The area covered is cropped regularly and no complaints have been received by the Local Authority in connection with the disposal of town refuse.

NUISANCES:- Choked drains comprised the majority of the nuisances complained of during the year. Sixty-five complaints were received and attended to. No legal proceedings were taken.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES:- At the end of the year the Council decided to call for improved lavatory accommodation and water supplies to a number of houses. In all, 271 houses were concerned and 55 notices were sent to proprietors calling for the execution of works necessary for the above improvements.

No inspections, further to those reported in the supplementary report of 1933, were made.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE:- Two hundred and seventy-three cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year - 47 of diphtheria, 172 of scarlet fever, 2 of puerperal fever, 7 of tuberculosis, 12 of erysipelas, 32 of pneumonia and 1 of malaria.



One hundred and eighty-six patients were removed to the local Infectious Diseases Hospital, 32 to Peterhead Infectious Diseases Hospital and 1 patient was isolated at home.

Two hundred and twenty-three visits of enquiry were made; 234 houses and 221 sets of bedding were disinfected. Five hundred and six intimations and clearance certificates were issued to schools.

FOOD INSPECTION:- Two factories exist within the Burgh where curing and tinning of herring and tinning of meat are carried out. These premises are well kept, clean and in good condition.

At the public slaughterhouse, the only one within the Burgh, 65 seizures of unsound meat were made, all with owners' consent, the total weight seized being 18,369 lbs., comprising 18,254 lbs. meat and offal and 115 lbs. mutton and offal. Two hundred and sixty-two lbs. of preserved foods were also destroyed, with owners' consent, as being unsound and unfit for food. These consisted of tinned meats, fish, fruit and milk.

HOUSING - PRIVATE ENTERPRISE:- Two houses were completed by unassisted private enterprise during the year.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926:- One house was reconstructed during the year on which the Local Authority granted subsidy under the Act.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930:- Forty houses were built and occupied during the year under the Slum Clearance Scheme. This brings the total number of houses built and occupied under this Scheme to 88. The total number of persons displaced from unfit houses, as at 31st December, 1934, was 433.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1934:- Twelve houses were completed and occupied under this Act early in the year bringing the total number of houses constructed under the Act to 136.

GENERAL:- The schools in the Burgh are all kept in good sanitary condition.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:- There is only one registered business within the Burgh, that of tallow melting.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES:- There are no registered common lodging houses within the Burgh.

BURIAL GROUND:- The Burial Ground is outwith the Burgh boundary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:- The administration of the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the County Police.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS:- These are under the control of the County Veterinary Officer.

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